FBIS DAILY REPORT

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BROADCASTING OF MINISTERS' INTERVIEWS SUSPENDED

PY240218 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0033 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 23 Nov (DYN) -- This evening the public information secretary phoned the official television channels and informed them that they should cancel the broadcasting of the press conferences already taped with the interior, labor and social welfare ministers which were supposed to be aired tomorrow and the day after. According to reliable sources of the official television channel they were also informed that the scheduled recordings with the remaining ministers of the cabinet were suspended.

EXOCET MISSILES, PLANES ALREADY IN COUNTRY

PY231728 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1500 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 23 Nov (NA) -- Eight French Super Etendard aircraft and their respective supply of Exocet missiles are reportedly already in Argentine territory. The aircraft and missiles, which made a deadly combination for the British fleet during the Malvinas war, were reportedly airlifted from France in several flights by military transport planes.

Military sources told NA that the shipment of the aircraft and missiles were kept secret to avoid British interference. They added that reports that the eight aircraft and missiles were being carried by the transport ship "San Blas," were part of "a carefully designed military plan to avoid any interference that might affect the equipment."

They added that since the Malvinas war the military "have learned much" about "this other type of war, that is, the one concerning information." The sources thus alluded to the ploy used to disguise the shipment of the Super Etendard aircraft and Exocet missiles, which are reportedly already being assembled in Argentine naval units.

SPECIAL GROUP TO EVALUATE RELATIONS WITH U.S.

PY231654 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2110 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Nov (NA) -- A reliable Argentine Foreign Ministry source said today that "a special work group," whose mission will be to improve the deteriorated U.S.-Argentine relations, has been formed within the Foreign Ministry. However, it was noted that this does not mean that "we will bend over backwards."

The source noted that this group has begun to draft a sort of "inventory" of difficulties that have affected Argentine-U.S. relations since the beginning of the century.

The objective of this commission is to carry out an analysis "as strictly objective as possible," disregarding any "subjective" interpretation of the nature of U.S.-Argentine bilateral relations. U.S.-Argentine bilateral relations have experienced periods of crisis and of euphoria.

The Carter administration emphasized and conditioned this relation to the unrestricted defense of human rights by Argentina. As a result, bilateral relations cooled. However, these improved with the coming to power of Ronald Reagan, whose administration praised Gen Leopoldo Galtieri as "an imposing personality" shortly before the latter assumed the presidency.

The source did not deny that special emphasis will be placed on analyzing the U.S. stand during the South Atlantic conflict when Washington ceased being a "mediator" between the United Kingdom and Argentina and openly supported its NATO partner.

Moreover, the group will evaluate "the complete extent" of U.S. support in the United Nations for the Latin American motion urging Buenos Aires and London to resume negotiations over the Malvinas dispute within the framework of the United Nations and with "the good offices" of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

An Argentine diplomatic spokesman noted that "it is not our intention to bend over backwards" for the United States, but "we want to find sufficient, objective and exact elements to be able to negotiate but without being detrimental to our dignity and sovereignty and without forgetting the solidarity and support of the Latin American continent during the hard experience we had to confront."

AGUIRRE LANARI COMMENTS ON OAS MEETING

PY232223 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Nov 82 pp 1, 4

[Excerpts] Argentine Foreign Minister Juan Ramon Aguirre Lanari has returned to Buenos Aires from Washington where he attended the OAS assembly.

Fifteen minutes after his arrival, Aguirre Lanari talked to a group of journalist in the Ezeiza International Airport's press room.

The foreign minister said that the voting at the OAS has ratified and supported the resolution on the Malvinas that Argentina was able to obtain at the United Nations. He noted that "the OAS resolution tells Great Britain that it cannot carry out unilateral acts as it apparently had planned. Now there is a mandate approved by the international community that forces Great Britain to hold negotiations regarding the dispute over the sovereignty of the Malvinas Islands."

Asked whether a date has been established for the start of negotiations, Aguirre Lanari answered: "We are willing to start negotiations right away but naturally the issue is in the hands of UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar."

Regarding his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, Aguirre Lanari noted that he had explained Argentina's present situation and that the U.S. secretary of state had approved what was discussed.

The foreign minister refused to answer a question about the handing over of power to future officials since he said this issue is outside his area of action. But he noted that the present government had already established a date: March 1984. Aguirre Lanari said: "Maybe it will be a few days ahead of time or a few days later but the handing over of power will take place as scheduled."

The foreign minister noted that during his meeting with George Shultz they did not discuss the Central America issue. However, he said that "there is a new stage" in what he called "a dialogue with the United States." In this regard, the foreign minister said that positive steps were being taken to improve bilateral relations that were seriously affected by the Malvinas war. He noted that these were slow and gradual steps since we cannot forget that U.S.-Argentine relations experienced a critical period during the Malvinas war.

Regarding Washington's support of Argentina in the Latin American resolution over the Malvinas, the Argentine foreign minister said that this was a positive gesture by the United States and added that this kind of attitude helps Argentina's negotiating position."

Asked whether the rumor that he may be appointed interior minister during the final stages of this administration was true, Aguirre Lanari denied it, adding that: "I believe that I have put a lot of determination in my work at the Foreign Ministry and that I have been able to gain experience that may help the country if I remain where I am."

FRAGUIO MEETS U.S., CUBAN OFFICIALS IN GENEVA

PY231633 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Trade Secretary Alberto Fraguio, who is attending the GATT meeting in Geneva, has met with U.S. representatives at the Geneva conference center. The meeting was attended by Senators Jesse Helms, Mack Mattingly and Charles Grassley; Donald Nelson, assistant U.S. trade representative for agriculture; and (Anthony Quick), adviser for agricultural affairs at the U.S. Geneva mission. Discussed at the meeting were the two countries' concern over the EEC protectionist policy, the agricultural production of that region and the Argentine concern over subsidized exports of U.S. agricultural products.

Fraguio also met with members of the Cuban trade mission and with the Australian minister and deputy minister of trade and resources, Douglas Anthony and (Charles Still), respectively.

ARGENTINA GOVERNMENT WILL NOT PROTEST BOLIVIAN'S REMARKS

PY232142 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2118 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 22 Nov (DYN) -- The Argentine Government has decided not to adopt any type of measure regarding the explosive statements made on Friday by Oscar Zamora Medinacelli, second vice president of the Bolivian Senate. Foreign Ministry sources reported this afternoon that Zamora's statements will not provoke a reaction from the government, because "time cannot be spent denying every statement that is made against Argentina," the sources said. The comments regarding Zamora's statements were made at San Martin Palace when Foreign Minister Juan R. Aguirre resumed his activities after returning from Washington yesterday, where he participated in the OAS General Assembly.

Aguirre Lanari had a very long meeting this morning with Ambassador Arnoldo Listre, the Foreign Ministry policy director. Aguirre Lanari then went to Government House, where he held the usual Monday meeting with President Reynaldo Bignone in which he informs the chief of state on the activities of the Diplomatic sector. During today's meeting, Aguirre Lanari informed Bignone about the results achieved at the OAS General Assembly, where an Argentine proposal urging the United Kingdom and Argentina to renew negotiations of the South Atlantic Islands received a favorable vote.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry is preparing for the visit of Luis Valencia Rodriguez, the Ecuadorean foreign minister, who is expected in Buenos Aires on 1 December. Another important visitor is expected next month. Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir is expected about the middle of the month. Between these two visits, Aguirre Lanari will travel to Brasilia to participate in the 13th meeting of the foreign ministers of the River Plate Basin, which will take place on 6 and 7 December, and in which problems of a financial nature must be discussed.

NO HURRY TO RENEW RELATIONS WITH CHILE

PY231635 Paris AFP in Spanish 1534 GMT 21 Nov 82

[Text] La Paz, 21 Nov (AFP) -- Franklin Anaya, vice minister for foreign affairs, said here today that "it is still too early to say whether Bolivia will renew relations with Chile in order to negotiate its landlocked problem."

According to the press, this assertion is a tacit answer to Rene Rojas, Chile's foreign minister, who asserted during the OAS General Assembly that was closed yesterday in Washington that the renewal of relations was a prior condition for initiating any type of negotiations between the two countries.

Anaya added that before renewing relations, Chile should promise to grant Bolivia a sovereign outlet to the Pacific Ocean without territorial compensation. This compensation was demanded by Chile in 1974 during the negotiations between President Gen Augusto Pinochet and the then Bolivian chief of state, Gen Hugo Banzer Suarez.

EX-MINISTER TO TESTIFY AGAINST GARCIA MEZA

PY231901 LA Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 0000 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Our correspondent in Santa Cruz reports that former Education Minister Ariel Coca, who has been charged with drug trafficking, has decided to put himself at the disposal of the military courts. He also announced that he would inform on drug trafficking which took place during the Garcia Meza regime.

Ariel Coca told reporters that he will sue a U.S. Senator; Mike Wallace, the producer of the U.S. television program "60 Minutes"; and also the interim manager of the Bolivian Television Enterprise, which broadcast the "60 Minutes" program on drug trafficking in Bolivia.

[Begin relay from Santa Cruz] During a press conference, former Education Minister Ariel Coca Aguirre said that if General Garcia Meza were honest, he would tell the truth. My removal from the minister was decided on the basis of reasons that only the military high command was aware of at the time, Coca contended.

Ariel Coca also said that he will sue U.S. Senator Dennis Deconcini on charges of contempt of a government official, slander, injury and criminal libel, offenses which are described in the penal code. Coca will also sue CBS journalist Mike Wallace and Julio Barragan, the manager of the Bolivian Television Enterprise, on charges of having violated articles 162,283,284 and 287 of the penal code.

Ariel Coca charged that the Bolivian Television Enterprise hurt his reputation by broadcasting the program "60 Minutes." Therefore, he concluded, the courts must act immediately. Coca also reported that he sent a note to the armed forces general command asking the institution to prosecute him and punish him if he is found guilty. He also asked that the Bolivian Television Enterprise broadcast a cassette he recorded rebutting the charges made by the program "60 Minutes."

In conclusion, he said that in due time he would make important revelations concerning drug trafficking and drug traffickers during the Garcia Meza regime. This has been Panamericana reporting from Santa Cruz. [end relay]

SARAIVA GUERREIRO INTERVIEWED ON REAGAN VISIT

PY231525 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Nov 82 p 12

["Excerpts" of interview granted by Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro to BRAZILIAN NEWS AGENCY, EBN, in Brasilia on 19 November]

[Text] Reporter: Mr Minister, what are the political results the Brazilian Government expects from President Ronald Reagan's visit?

Minister: The visit in itself is a politically significant event. In the first place, it shows that relations between the two countries are going well and are of importance. This is President Reagan's first visit to Latin America, apart from those meetings he normally holds with the president of Mexico. And it is certainly significant that Brazil will be the first stop on the tour. In the second place, it is known that this is a time of economic difficulties for the whole world.

I believe that the political character and significance of the visit is enhanced because of the many unfortunate interpretations, the many wrong views regarding the international situation, the relations between Brazil and the United States in particular, and Brazilian foreign policy in general. Some people childishly still see some roughness, some anti-American attitude, which never existed in those relations. I even believe that the public in general does not understand very well that two countries like the United States and Brazil will necessarily have different positions and opinions. This, however, is inherent to international relations within the system to which we belong and which is not organized hierarchically. And in my opinion, some reports offend the United States in saying that it is pressuring us, that it wants to impose a course of action, etc., when nothing of the sort exists.

Reporter: Much has been said about the divergence of Brazil's policy toward the Third World from that of the United States. Can we say that at no time will President Reagan's visit be, let's say, an opportunity for the two governments to review their policies toward the Third World?

Minister: This is one of the most hollow issues that can be raised. The problems that do not exist are the most difficult to resolve. The most useless discussions are those with no basis in reality, based on subjective suppositions.

Reporter: Minister, some people consider President Reagan's visit to Brazil as some sort of demonstration to the international financial community of the confidence the United States has in Brazil's ability to overcome its economic difficulties. Do you agree with that interpretation?

Minister: I believe that is one of the visit's aspects, but one that is just a consequence of the visit. I do not believe that President Reagan's visit can be restricted to that aspect alone. It is a secondary aspect, which is very good but only secondary. He will come because of a political decision: He thought it important to demonstrate his interest toward Latin America, to show that his country, at the highest governmental level, has a positive attitude toward Latin America, toward Brazil as well as toward other countries. Although the visit is part of a larger picture, it does not mean that this interest and attitude do not exist. Logically they do exist.

Reporter: You said that it is a demonstration of the U.S. Government's attitude toward Latin America. But when Reagan was elected the Latin American countries were a little bit wary of the economic policy the United States would follow. Afterward came the Malvinas episode during which all the Latin American countries were distressed at the U.S. support for Great Britain. Can you then say that this visit represents a new political position of the United States toward Latin America?

Minister: I do not believe there is anything that dramatic about it. I think that it is an effort to make it clear that the things you mentioned did not mean that the U.S. Government places its relations with Latin America at a lower level, let's say. The U.S. President wants to show that, despite all that, he considers the relations with Latin American important for his country.

Reporter: Regarding the Malvinas, Mr Minister, do you believe that we have to have the support of the United States to attain a solution favorable to Latin America?

Minister: Our position on the Malvinas episode was always based on assertions: First, we have recognized since 1833 that the Malvinas were Argentine territory occupied by force by Great Britain, a de facto occupation that continues to this day; second, we have always supported a negotiated political solution and we have continued, even at the most difficult moments, to propose a negotiated solution. Very well, the UN General Assembly resolution says just that, that there is a dispute between the two countries and that it is necessary for them to negotiate and seek a peaceful solution, and finally it requests that the UN secretary general offer his good offices. It is just that, and on those points the United States and Brazil agree.

Reporter: Regarding Brazil, do you believe that Reagan's visit is intended to encourage the political liberalization process to continue?

Minister: I am asked that sometimes. I believe it is irrelevant because the democratization process either evolves as a product of the Brazilian society, let's say, or it is false and will not last. There is no external force capable of stimulating in any decisive or significant way the course of the democratization process or reversing it. The process is by necessity an internal process. Therefore the visit of President Reagan really is irrelevant from the standpoint of our democratization process. Now, it is perfectly understandable that friendly countries and governments, and public opinion in those countries, may be satisfied in seeing evolution in that regard.

Reporter: You may have stated that the commercial differences with the United States do not affect the relations between the two countries because they are mature relations. But certainly those differences cause enough concern, don't they? I would like to know what short-term results could be expected in this area during the visit.

Minister: I believe this: The general aspect of relations between the two countries has been good. There are differences, normally there will be, but such differences are even a sign of the vitality of the two countries. We are not a country standing still, stagnating, where all has been done. Neither is the United States like that. We are seeking a place in the sun. The United States has great responsibilities worldwide, broader than ours, and so it is only natural that there should be problems. Problems in the commercial area are obvious, they will always exist.

Look, even with countries that are military allies of the United States, the West European countries, which are at about the same level of development, each with its own strong individuality but with the same sense of solidarity and immediate security interests, there is always friction. In some cases we are with the United States and against the EEC, as in the case of agricultural products, for example. In other cases, we are closer to the EEC position than the U.S. position, as in the case of examining new questions in the establishment of a set of rules for international relations regarding services, investments, etc. Japan already has its problems with the United States and they are under negotiation. This is a normal phenomenon, a general phenomenon. It is more frequent in the case of the United States because the U.S. market is individually our greatest market.

Reporter: This Regan visit is a consequence of President Figueiredo's speech at the United Nations, is it not? Do you believe in the establishment of a new economic order for the review of protectionist policies?

Minister: Certainly the speech by President Figueiredo has a lot to do with the visit. It was an exposition summing up very objectively, if you will, critically but extremely constructively at the same time, the positions which Brazil has been defending. It caused a great impact because it was voiced by the president of Brazil himself. We do not expect -- it would be naive to -- that the United States would completely agree with all that was said. The fact that we can talk about these things, about possible paths, is the important aspect. We believe that there can be some sort of accomodation, some sort of broader understanding. And I believe that, to that end, the visit of President Reagan may not have a dramatic significance, as you asked, but it can certainly result in an indication of greater understanding or in a willingness to clearly see the path to be taken to come out of the great difficulty facing the world today.

PMDB GAINS MAJORITY IN SAO PAULO ASSEMBLY

PY221517 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] The Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] has gained an absolute majority in the Sao Paulo Legislative Assembly with the election of 42 state deputies. The PMDB also has 29 of the 60 federal deputies, but these are still partial results disclosed by the latest tally issued by the Regional Electoral Court [TRE]. The vote count in the capital is practically over. According to the latest TRE report there are still 28,892 votes to be counted. Moreover, it must be noted that of the 33 seats of the Municipal Chamber, 15 seats went to the PMDB, 7 went to the Brazilian Labor Party, 6 to the Social Democratic Party, 5 to the Workers Party and 1 to the Democratic Labor Party.

PDS CANDIDATE ADMITS DEFEAT IN MINAS GERAIS

PY241154 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Former Minister Eliseu Resende [Social Democratic Party, PDS, Gubernatorial candidate] today admitted for the first time the victory of Senator Tancredo Neves, the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party's gubernatorial candidate in Minas Gerais State.

Resende attributes his defeat to the fact that the election was seen as a referendum and to the (?voters) dissatisfaction over the present economic juncture. He noted, however, that he was satisfied with the number of votes he received since he was the PDS gubernatorial candidate who received the most votes.

ECONOMY MINISTER ANNOUNCES REACTIVATION PLAN

PY170117 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Speaking at the opening session of the fourth national enterprise meeting -- Enade 82 -- Economy Minister Rolf Luders said today that the economic goals are to reduce unemployment to 15 percent in the third quarter of 1983 and to 10 percent in 1984.

The minister said that the goal of economic reactivation will be attained through the efforts being made in four basic areas: first, demand levels will be raised; second: enterprises' operational profitability will be restored; third: the renegotiation of debts will be facilitated in order to let enterprises operate under proper financial conditions; and, fourth, a significant fiscal effort will be made in order to reduce unemployment and encourage economic reactivation.

Among other topics, Luders referred to the renegotiation of enterprises' debts. He said the government has adopted comprehensive measures in support of the sector, so that interested enterprises may renegotiate their debts with financial institutions. However, he warned that enterprises will be granted no subsidies, even though they will be granted longer terms to meet their obligations.

[Begin Luders recording] In addition, we should not forget that the preferential dollar rate already amounts to a disbursement that will (?share out) 100 billion pesos at current rates between 1982 and 1983. This is a subsidy which, in general, favors the private sector. [end recording]

Luders then admitted that debt renegotiation has not been as expeditious as expected.

[Begin Luders recording] Bureaucracy has been one of the problems. Therefore, we are aiming our efforts at speeding up renegotiations. In addition, the central bank and the superintendency of banks have sent commissions to solve pending problems with the banks themselves. [end recording]

The minister later referred to the study of a plan aimed at reducing unemployment. The plan was drawn up by economists from both the public and private sectors.

[Begin Luders recording] This commission has already submitted a preliminary report. Based on this report, we can say that the programs which will be implemented will make the unemployment rate drop to 15 percent in the third quarter of 1983, and to 10 percent in the third quarter of 1984. In the short-term, all proposed projects belong to the public sector or they involve either subsidies or government support, something [words indistinct] with the previous suggestions. [end recording]

In conclusion, Luders said, unemployment will fall to reasonable levels within a relatively short time.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN INVESTMENT -- During the first 10 months of this year, applications have been approved by the Central Bank for foreign investment amounting to $406,541,000. [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 12 Nov 82 p C5 PY]

NEW ARMY JOINT STAFF CHIEF -- Maj Gen Rafael Ortiz Navarro assumed the post of chief of the army joint staff yesterday. He replaced Maj Gen Enrique Morel Donoso. [Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 12 Nov 82 p 33 PY]

100 GUERRILLAS ACCEPT AMNESTY, SURRENDER

PA232018 Paris AFP in Spanish 2227 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Bogota, 22 Nov (AFP) -- It was announced here today that some 100 guerrillas have surrendered and that an equal number have announced that they will do the same, thus accepting the amnesty granted by the Colombian Government to approximately 6,000 insurgents.

The amnesty has been in effect since Saturday. It applies to the crimes of rebellion, conspiracy and sedition and has facilitated the return of approximately 100 guerrillas to society in the past 24 hours.

Ricardo Talero Cruz, commander of one of the fronts of the (Castroite) Army of National Liberation (ELN), surrendered today with 24 other men after having spent 14 years in the guerrilla movement. He surrendered at La Dorada, 150 km southeast of Bogota. Talero, the first seditious commander to accept the amnesty, asked for an opportunity to work as an architect in a state organization that builds houses.

The authorities have reported the surrender of another 100 guerrillas of various tendencies. Jaime Bateman Cayon, 42, the most important guerrilla of the 19 April Movement (M-19), will surrender this week. According to Clementina Cayon, mother of the guerrilla leader, Bateman will arrive at Santa Marta at any moment. He will be accompanied by the M-19's military high command, which includes Ivan Marino Ospina and Carlos Rojas. Bateman will surrender with another 100 guerrillas.

Jacobo Arenas, leader of the (communist) Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), has announced that he will also put down his arms. Alberto Rojas Puyo, a communist leader, said here today that the FARC is implementing a truce, which is "proof that FARC is accepting the amnesty." Arenas' statement does not make clear whether FARC members will present themselves to the authorities or just "bury" their weapons and wait for the government to fulfill its social promises.

Some 100 guerrillas from the M-19, ELN and FARC have announced that they will surrender in small units and asked for jobs. Justice Minister Bernardo Gaitan Mahecha has said that "it is not necessary for those accepting the amnesty to present themselves to the authorities." On the basis of this statement, many guerrillas who have no record and who are not being tried will keep their anonymity; they will just put down their arms. Nevertheless, superior courts of justice today were flooded with work from political proceedings being handled in various courts.

Bateman Refuses to Surrender

PA231429 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1408 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Bogota, 23 Nov (EFE) — The Colombian guerrilla group 19 April Movement (M-19) announced today that it will not lay down its weapons unless the government grants a 6-month truce.

Jaime Bateman, the top leader of the nationalist guerrilla organization, told newsman Juan Guillermo Rios that he will not accept the amnesty decreed by the Colombian Government. Rios was released in Quito, Ecuador, today following 3 days of talks in the Colombian jungle. Bateman stressed the importance of an end to the hostilities, particularly an end to all military operations, so as to seek the path of truce toward peace in the country.

Bateman added that he has been authorized by leaders of other guerrilla groups to propose this truce, and said that if President Betancur accepts this proposal he is willing to go to Narino Palace to sign it.

He said that the reports about his surrender came from his mother, Clementina Cayon, and might have been prompted by her desire to have him by her side, but that so far this is only a rumor.

Juan Guillermo Rios announced in Quito that he is going to Bogota today to inform the president of the M-19's decision and to broadcast an interview with Bateman Cayon over the CARACOL radio network this evening.

LLOREDA CAICEDO COMMENTS ON OAS MEETING, TRADE

PA231725 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] Bogota -- Colombia announced today that it will promote the development of commercial relations with those countries that in turn accord good treatment to it in their exchange programs. Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo made this announcement today when asked about the restrictions that France has placed on our sugar exports. Lloreda Caicedo discussed this and other topics of hemispheric interest with newsmen at the end of a special meeting called by the National Economic and Social Policy Council, Conpes.

The Colombian foreign minister, who returned yesterday from Washington where he presided over the OAS meeting, had this to say about these topics:

[Begin recording] [Lloreda Caicedo] There were two outstanding issues: First, a certain spirit of reconciliation was evident at the OAS; the United States supported Argentina in connection with the Malvinas issue. A cordiality prevailed which had not been too frequent of late, what with the ongoing disputes or differences that currently exist among several member countries, and the desire to pull through and strengthen the OAS was expressed. This is the spirit that prevailed. I think the assembly was positive.

Second, the economic initaitive was expressed in concrete terms. Two simultaneous meetings will be held and have already been called by the CIES and CIECC [presumably the Inter-American Economic and Social Council and the Inter-Amercan Educational, Scientific and Cultural Committee, respectively], the bodies that handle the social and economic aspects of this organization. They will prepare the agenda and will set a date, during the first half of 1984, to hold a special assembly on economic cooperation. In other words, we will thoroughly discuss a program under which the countries, especially the richer ones in the area, will be committed to defend an economic system enabling those nations that are currently at a standstill to develop.

This assembly may coincide with a reactivation of the world economy, and at that point it would be politically more viable to make such commitments. The idea is not to hold meetings merely to discuss how badly we are doing, to diagnose all our problems, to say that there is a foreign debt, that the prices of our raw materials have declined on the international markets or that the various countries have internal budget deficits.

The important thing is not to diagnose, but to find solutions. In order to do that, we need a framework of global negotiations to open the big markets of countries like the United States to the regional countries.

We must also study formulas to refinance our debts and open new development possibilities. This costs money. The important thing is to get the countries to pledge this money. In this regard, it may be advantageous not to hold the conference right away, but rather to wait several months, because perhaps by that time the real possibilities of achieving those goals may have increased.

[Question] Mr Minister, [words indistinct] revise Colombia's commercial relations with those countries that do not respond with like courtesy? This is what France is doing now -- setting up obstacles to our commercial policy, especially with regard to sugar.

[Answer] In the speech I delivered at the United Nations I mentioned that subject. The philosophy involved is very simple: Together with the other state agencies, we will develop a policy under which those countries that help us must be preferentially asked to collaborate in the big development plans, in the big projects, in the linking of capital to the various economic areas. I think that this idea of reciprocal treatment is good. If a country helps us enforce the coffee pact, then we ought to behave better toward that country than toward those which seek to hinder that basic aspect of our foreign trade.

This should also be done with other products. This reciprocity will, therefore, depend not only on the Foreign Ministry, but on coordinated action by the various ministries connected with the country's development and even on the regional governments, which must become aware that we must work together with those countries that want to work with us.

[Question] Mr Minister, concerning our colleague's earlier question here, could this be interpreted as a warning to France?

[Answer] No, it is not only France. I think there are many such cases. Many adjustments are possible. For instance, there are countries like Algeria which buy from us a lot of coffee and other agricultural products, where we don't even have an ad honorem consulate. There is a total lack of coordination between the country's foreign service and its commercial needs. All this points to the fact that certain adjustments should be made. Our foreign policy must be in line with our economic realities and with the existing possibilities in this field.

[Question] Mr Minister, how are our country's relations with the EEC doing these days?

[Answer] I think they are fine, despite the existence of undeniable problems. The case of sugar has been repeatedly cited, because by adopting certain measures the EEC has contributed to a dramatic decline in the price of sugar, lowering this price to a level that is absolutely ruinous for the export of this product. Other similar cases have occurred [word indistinct] and as a result of this, we've had some difficulties. However, after the steps taken a few months ago, which sought to establish some agreements between the EEC countries and the Cartagena Agreement or Andean Pact countries, the process is advancing fairly well in Brussels. Perhaps next year we will be able to review all aspects of this relationship and will be able to strengthen the relations between the Andean Pact and the EEC. [end recording]

VICE PRESIDENT OPPOSES INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

PA201705 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Nov 82

[Text] Ecuadorean Vice President Leon Roldos has said that any institutional changes in the country, even if constitutional, would be negative, because they would lead to an internal struggle, with false expectations and distortions. He added that any rectifications must be done by President Hurtado's government.

In his remarks, he also said: I have always noted that my position is neither one of uncompromising support or of opposition. It is a conscious and responsible commitment to expressing positions or views, not because they will please government sectors or opposition sectors, but because they are expressions of sincerity and truth. Silence is not the best support for democracy.

Referring to the country's economic crisis, Vice President Roldos said that it must be solved with the aid of all Ecuadoreans but the primary responsibility for solving it falls on the nation's government, which must make the decisions. He added that those decisions must not be isolated or respond solely to the variable and circumstantial views of those who hold specific posts. Rather, they must be based on a technical analysis of the appropriate institutions, taking all possible effects into account so that the resulting measures will not be more negative than positive, so that they will not increase the suffering of the less protected social sectors and so that they will not be used as a pretext for those who want to attack democracy.

RODOLFO BAQUERIZO ANNOUNCES WITHDRAWAL FROM CFP

PA201732 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1230 GMT 20 Nov 82

[Text] Rodolfo Baquerizo, president of the National Chamber of Representatives, has announced his decision to withdraw from the Concentration of Popular Forces, CFP. He said that when he made the decision to resign as director of the party, he did so in a final effort and sacrifice to achieve the CFP's essential objective of unity. At that time, he said that he was not going to leave the party and that he hoped that at its meeting, the CFP Directorate would act with wisdom, since the essential thing was the party's unity.

He stressed that he had been scheduled to leave the country for imperative reasons but decided to stay until he learned of the results of the party convention. Baquerizo also said that he had hoped that wisdom would prevail at that meeting, but that he has unfortunately confirmed that unity cannot and will not be achieved because of rash and capricious attitudes, which will lead to the division of the party.

On announcing his decision, Baquerizo said that he does not want to be one of the party's gravediggers. His decision will undoubtedly intensify the CFP's internal crisis, as it is probable that other CFP leaders will take a similar position.

BRIEFS

OIL CONSUMPTION FIGURES -- The Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation, CEPE, has reported to the Secretariat of Information that between 1975 and 1981 the country consumed close to 2.476 billion gallons of fuel. They said that in 1975 consumption was about 240.1 million gallons and in 1981 it rose to 453.3 million gallons. [Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 15 Nov 82 PA]

BELAUNDE SPEAKS ON TIES WITH U.S., OAS, CUBA

PY230007 Lima Radio America in Spanish 1100 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Summary] During President Fernando Belaunde Terry's usual Sunday press conference, an EL COMERCIO journalist pointed out that the recent OAS assembly recommended that Peru, Chile and Bolivia negotiate Bolivia's landlocked situation and asked whether the Peruvian Government had any alternative to the plan of granting Bolivia a neutral corridor to the sea.

President Belaunde answered that "we believe that this is a bilateral issue which should be solved by the countries involved and Peru would only consider intervening in compliance with the terms of the respective treaty. Peru will intervene only if the solution reached grants Bolivia a corridor or something similar through territory which used to belong to Peru. In that case Peru has to intervene in compliance with the terms of the treaty because Peru, naturally, complies with treaties. In general terms, however, we advocate that problems between two nations, two sister nations, should be solved through bilateral agreements, the only exception being in the aforementioned case. We have the best intentions and most fraternal feelings for Bolivia whose problem concerns us. As far as we are concerned we are taking decisive steps in order to help them out with this problem."

Another journalist pointed out to the president that he had advocated continental solidarity during the Malvinas issue which was not shared by the United States and asked him how he thought Latin America should respond to this.

President Belaunde answered that "I believe that the OAS, which Canada has not yet joined but which would be appropriate, is a hemispheric organization and should be maintained as such. A strictly Latin American subgroup should be established within this organization in order to handle all our problems. From my point of view, it would be a great mistake to dissolve the inter-American system."

The president then pointed out that he had been talking to (Carlos Viera) with whom he shares the belief that "no possibilities of links should be lost. We have problems and we cannot avoid them, but it would be absurd to ignore the fact that there is a broad trade exchange within the hemisphere. Approximately one-third of our trade exchange is carried out with the United States. Last year the trade balance was unfavorable for Peru since we only sold goods worth $1 billion and purchased $1.2 billion and I think that this is wrong, since the trade balance should favor the less developed countries. By saying this we are not adopting an arrogant position regarding the United States, as some childish people believe. We are just protecting our interests."

The president then pointed out that if Peru seeks a substantial dollar reserve, the trade balance should tip in its favor and that the country should be able to sell the United States a fair share of goods since it purchases many goods such as tractors, spare parts, tools, computers, etc. from that country. "I believe that so far the trade balance favors us somewhat this year, but last year it did not and that is absurd because an unfavorable trade balance is also an unfavorable political balance."

The next question posed to the president referred to Foreign Minister Javier Arias Stella's statement at the OAS assembly regarding Cuba joining the OAS.

The president said: "Yes, naturally, the foreign minister speaks on my behalf at those meetings. We do not want anybody excluded in Latin America. The fact that our government system is different to that of Cuba does not mean that it should be (?excluded) from the Latin American organizations." He then went on to point out that that country, as it did during his first administration, could interfere in the domestic affairs of other countries, even through the use of guerrillas. He ended by pointing out that necessary measures would have to be taken if Cuba persists in that policy, since it would represent aggression.

MORE SOCIAL SECURITY WORKERS JOIN HUNGER STRIKE

PY161333 Paris AFP in Spanish 0226 GMT 16 Nov 82

[Text] Lima, 15 Nov (AFP) -- Three workers of the Peruvian Social Security Service entered the Spanish Embassy in Lima this afternoon to begin a hunger strike seeking to call the people's attention to the strike which 30,000 Social Security workers have been staging since Monday of last week.

These three persons thus joined the six other colleagues who have been on hunger strike for 6 days in Lima, the 12 other colleagues who are also staging a hunger strike in Huancayo, central region of the country, and the 30 others who are adopting the same measure in Arequipa, 1,000 km south of Lima.

The Federation of Social Security Workers is demanding a substantial increase in salaries and the resignation of the head of the system, who on Saturday offered them an increase which the union leaders rejected yesterday, Sunday.

It was also reported that 4,000 miners of Centromin, of Cerro de Pasco, began a 48-hour stoppage this morning, demanding reforms in the labor laws related to the mining sector and economic improvements.

COMMITTEE TO ORGANIZE 40-HOUR PEASANT STRIKE

PA221932 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] In Lima, Peru, a Central Action Committee has been created to coordinate a 48-hour peasant strike. The strike has been called for Thursday and Friday to protest the Belaunde Terry administration's policy toward the rural sector.

The peasants, who are being backed by almost all the agrarian organizations of Peru, are demanding fair prices for their cotton, sugar, milk, corn, wheat and other products.

They are also demanding that the government gives them low-interest loans, lower taxes on work tools, changes in agrarian laws and the immediate release of farmers arrested for alleged terrorist activities.

PARTIES PREPARING FOR INTERNAL ELECTIONS

PY181850 Paris AFP in Spanish 1211 GMT 18 Nov 82

[By Enrique Vidal]

[Text] Montevideo, 18 Nov (AFP) -- In an atmosphere characterized by hostility and old rivalries, political parties that have been authorized to carry out political activity in Uruguay are getting ready to take the first step toward achieving the reinstitutionalization of the country through internal elections that will be held on the last Sunday of the month to elect their new officials.

The elections, the first to be held after 9 years of political party inactivity, will set in motion the power of the popular vote to elect leaders of three political parties, namely, the Colorado Party (Liberal), the National Party (Blanco), and the Civic Union (Catholic Conservative).

The citizens' attention is centered on the two large parties, with a minimum of interest in the Civic Union Party which, according to the general consensus, will obtain an estimated 2 percent vote in the elections.

There are 274 lists and each list needs a minimum of 50 and can have a maximum of 250 candidates per department, depending on its importance. The objective is to come up with 500 party delegates overall.

Those elected must appoint a party executive board made up of 15 persons. This is to be done on a strict basis of proportional representation.

These same party conventions will later construct their own party platforms and will appoint candidates for senator, vice president and president for the general elections scheduled for November 1984.

The two largest traditional parties participating in the elections are divided into important groups that clearly oppose each other. This is shown by the way each conducts its political campaign, and particularly by its actions in recent years.

On one hand, the Colorado Party is engaged in a tough pre-election struggle between former President Jorge Pacheco Areco and lawyers Julio Sanguinetti and Enrique Tarigo, leaders of two groups opposing the present military-civilian regime.

On the other, the Blanco Party is involved in a peculiar fight between the For the Fatherland [Por la Patria] Movement and the National de Rocha Movements (sectors led by the banned and exiled former presidential candidate Wilson Ferreira Aldunate) and veteran party leader Alberto Gallinal, an ultra-conservative caudillo.

According to observers, the Blancos have a better chance in the elections than the Colorados, who are engaged in a verbal duel for convention seats.

Charges of perpetuation in power, revanchism' opportunism and not being in tune with the times, which is something characteristic among Colorado Party members, have contributed toward heating up this atmosphere.

For their part, the Blanco Party members are struggling to a lesser extent since the majority factions — For the Fatherland and the National de Rocha Movements -- withdraw from public activities in Montevideo after several of their members were tried for delivering speeches that were considered by the military to be offensive to the armed forces. Nevertheless, advertisements in the mass media show a marked resentment among the opposing sectors which charge their rivals with perpetuation in power and revanchism. For the time being, experts believe that the results of the elections are still uncertain since the polls show that there are still many who are undecided.

According to experts, although polls show that 33 percent of those able to vote in Montevideo are undecided, participation in the elections will be high, despite the fact that voting is not mandatory. According to political analysts, the Blanco Party offers a well defined pre-election picture and almost surely the majority of its convention members will come from opposition movements: For the Fatherland and National de Rocha.

However, the Blanco's ancestral enemies, the Colorados, are not giving any clues to fuel speculation, although their changing propaganda could in the end determine which faction may prevail, even one which does not constitute a majority within the party.

BROAD FRONT LEADERS DISCUSS REPRESSION, ELECTIONS

PA202104 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Nov 82

[Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with (Ricardo Vilaro), member of the Coordinating Committee of the Uruguayan Broad Front in exile: date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr (Vilaro), first of all I would like to hear your opinion regarding a recent resolution of the European Parliament demanding the release of Gen Liber Seregni Mosquera and other Uruguayan political prisoners. What does this resolution mean?

[Answer] In the first place, we understand this as the simple and clear expression of the opinions of governments, parliaments, and international political sectors regarding what is happening today in Uruguay -- that is, regarding the dictatorship, the repressive actions and the economic and social actions. The entire democratic world is demanding the release of Gen Liber Seregni and all other political prisoners. They understand that as long as there are political prisoners and torture there is no chance for democracy or positive social development in Uruguay.

[Question] Could this be described as a big political defeat for the Uruguayan dictatorship?

[Answer] Naturally, this is a political defeat for the political dictatorship; but it is more than that, because the dictatorship, with the use of the media, is always saying that they have improved their image abroad. This is not true because what is happening in the country cannot be hidden, and in today's world, a world in which all areas are linked by the media, what is happening in Uruguay is known and is of concern to everyone. The European Parliament has definitely given its help to the people of Uruguay.

[Question] (Vilaro) regarding the political prisoners in Uruguay, (Hector Rodriguez), leader of the Unifying Action [Accion Unificadora] groups, is still in prison even though he has already served his sentence. I would like to hear your opinion regarding this.

[Answer] We believe that the 9-year imprisonment of comrade (Hector Rodriguez) is an example of how the best sons of our nation, the best citizens and patriots, the men concerned over the unity of the country, the men who want to help develop the economy and the men concerned for the welfare of the people find themselves in prison, murdered, missing or in exile. What is most important is that despite the conditions of repression and the transformation of Uruguayan jails into true concentration camps, comrade (Hector Rodriguez), like all the other comrades, firmly upholds his ideals and his attitude of struggle. We demand, as the world and the people of Uruguay demand, the release of comrade (Hector Rodriguez) and all the other political prisoners.

[Question] Mr (Vilaro), on 28 November there will be internal elections in Uruguay. I know that you were in Madrid at a meeting of the Broad Front in exile, and that all of you agreed to submit blank votes during those elections.

I would like to know why the Broad Front has decided on this position, and how the casting of blank votes can make a plebiscite out of these elections.

[Answer] First of all, we would like to say that the Coordinating Committee in exile on only expressed the decision of the members of the Broad Front in the country and especially the decision of the president of the Broad Front, Comrade Gen Liber Seregni. Second, a blank vote is an affirmative vote, a vote of struggle against the dictatorship, against the political parties' law and statutes, not only because of their antidemocratic character and their exclusion of parties, but also because they combine the law of [word indistinct] which is one of the most negative factors of the past 30 or 40 years of our country's history. We believe that the blank vote expresses the people's need for a liberating and transforming force, for an anti-imperialist and anti-oligarchic system. This is what the Broad Front is: the Broad Front that has had the support of the people in the country during its long history, the Broad Front that has been a fundamental factor of resistance during these past 10 years in the prisons as well as on the streets of Uruguay and the Broad Front that is offering new ideas to build a new Uruguay.

This does not mean that we are discarding the idea that the traditional political parties, the Colorado and Blanco Parties, have members who oppose the dictatorship. The blank vote is one way for the opposition to express itself. The blank vote is a real option in today's Uruguay and can contribute effectively to the struggle against the dictatorship and to the struggle intended to bring about economic, social and political change. We advocate the blank vote because there is a force whose program must be expressed, because the blank vote expresses a policy of change, the contents of which are different from other expressions by the opposition made within the traditional parties. We understand that the struggle against the dictatorship demands unity and concurrence, but this concurrence necessitates a convergence of adequately represented forces. The Broad Front with its program that seeks to eliminate the conditions of dependence on U.S. imperialism and to give popular and democratic participation to the people for the construction of a new Uruguay must also be represented. The blank vote, then, is the expression of all those who have been excluded -- the young, those without a party, the Broad Front members -- who, within the framework of the opposition, are joining the struggle against the dictatorship.

26 March Movement Leader

PA231710 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Excerpt of Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with (Orlando Pinero), leader of the 26 March Movement of Uruguay and of the Coordinating Committee of the Broad Front in exile; no date given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] (Pinero), to what do you attribute the fact that, despite the repression, news has been leaking out lately from Uruguay about the growing rebellion of the Uruguayan people against the dictatorship?

[Answer] During this past period, as we said before, the dictatorship has plunged the country into a profound economic and social crisis under which the real wages of the workers continue to deteriorate at a fast pace and the country's debts continue to increase. The foreign debt reached $4 billion in September and is expected to reach $4.7 billion by the end of the year. Therefore, it is growing rapidly.

Unemployment is [word indistinct] and has reached 12 percent. This year alone, the loss of real wages is estimated at 12.5 percent a year. This reflects the gradual deterioration of the country's social situation, and the people are prepared to reverse this situation. There is an effective revival in the country. We can affirm that the people's movement has overcome the era of defeat it suffered and today [words indistinct] that there is a real advance, starting from the people's willingness to fight to defeat fascism definitively.

[Question] (Pinero), do you feel that two recent events related to foreign policy, the crisis over the Malvinas and the change in government in Bolivia, will in some way cause a repercussion and strike at the dictatorship?

[Answer] We say that the southern cone is in motion today. The situation in Bolivia is a clear setback to imperialism and to the Argentine dictatorship sectors which [words indistinct]. Following the Malvinas crisis, there was an internal crisis that produced changes in Argentina. Elections have been held in Brazil, and we hope they will mean a gradual return to democracy in the country.

We cannot isolate this from consolidation of the advance of the revolutions of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada. We cannot isolate this from the struggles of the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala and from the progressive positions of countries like Mexico, Venezuela and Ecuador, which cause imperialism to experience a situation in Latin America which we could describe as taking in water everywhere. This also has repercussions in the struggle by our people.

That situation which we previously mentioned, about overcoming what up to a few years ago was a defeat of the people's movement, also has a direct effect on reactivation inside the country. All of this falls within the context of movement taking place in the southern cone. We characterize [words indistinct] in the framework of a southern cone in motion. We hope that this will lead us to a true process of democratization in our country which will take us to the final liberation for which we are all struggling.

[Question] As a member of the Broad Front's Coordinating Committee, do you want to say something to the Uruguayan people on the eve of this electoral farce?

[Answer] I want to reiterate to the Uruguayan people what we have been saying: A blank vote is the clearest expression of our existence and presence inside the country, of the existence of the Broad Front. That blank vote is the struggle for the freedom of all the political prisoners: It is the struggle for the freedom of our president, General Seregni. A blank vote is definitely the clearest expression of the changes that our people want and which they will find through the Broad Front.

SUGAR PRICES INCREASED, SUBSIDIES SLASHED

FL230215 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2243 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 22 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- Commerce Secretary Jorge de la Vega Dominguez today announced an increase of over 100 percent in the price of sugar. De la Vega said that the price of sugar had been held stable for 2 1/2 years and said that due to the price change, an increase in prices of soft drinks had also been authorized. The secretary also noted that government had held the price of sugar at a low level through large subsidies to consumers which this year would amount to over 45 billion pesos ($642,857,142). With the price increase authorized today, however, the 1983 subsidy would amount to 22 billion pesos ($314,285,714).

CTM SECRETARY GENERAL PREDICTS BETTER TIMES

PA192347 Mexico City International Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 19 Nov 82

[Text] Fil Velasquez, secretary general of the Confederation of Mexican Workers, CTM, today rejected the idea that the next 2 years will entail sacrifices for the working class. The CTM leader reiterated that the country's economic situation reflects the current world crisis and gave assurances that no social problems could disrupt the peace prevailing in Mexico.

According to Velasquez, these last 6 years have been exceptionally favorable for the workers, who have greatly improved their situation.

Meanwhile, the sugar industry workers requested the intervention of President Jose Lopez Portillo to avoid the strike announced for 23-24 November. The sugar producers are demanding an increase of 1,300 Mexican pesos on the price of each ton of sugar, but the National Sugar Industry Commission has rejected this request, arguing that it would be too costly for the consumer.

In addition, the independent Union of Employees of the Metropolitan Autonomous University are currently staging a 24-hour strike to demand a 50-percent salary increase. Furthermore, the employees of the Latin American University cancelled the strike scheduled for today, after obtaining a 25-percent salary increase, in addition to a 750-peso cost of living adjustment.

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES, STATION PURCHASED

FL231604 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0042 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Nov (NOTIMEX) -- President Jose Lopez Portillo today attended the signing ceremony of an agreement by which the Mexican Government acquired two satellites at a total cost of $92 million. The contract, with the U.S. Hughes Corporation, includes the installation of a tracking and monitoring station for the satellites, as well as the operation of two logistics support services during the manufacture and placing of the satellites at the launching site.

During the working tour conducted by President Lopez Portillo of the Federal District and Queretaro to inaugurate telecommunications and transportation projects, two other contracts were signed with U.S. corporations. One of them was with NASA for placing the satellites in an orbit, approximately 300 km from earth, inside two capsules or propulsion modules. The two satellites will be sent aloft in April and September 1985, respectively, and launching them will cost approximately $28 million.

In a ceremony held at the central communications tower, a third contract for $11 million with the MacDonald Hughes Corporation was announced. This will cover the purchase of the propulsion modules which will transport the satellites from the orbit in which they will be placed by the launching space vehicle up to the altitude of the equatorial orbit.

INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD TO MEET LEADERS

PA222035 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 22 Nov 82 pp 1-A, 8-A

[By Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Excerpt] Forty-nine high-ranking officers from 20 Latin American countries, who make up the Inter-American Defense Board, arrived yesterday afternoon at Omar Torrijos International Airport from Colombia to start a 3-day work program during which they will meet with Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella, Gen Ruben Dario Paredes and other National Guard officers.

The officers, led by Board President Lt Gen John McEnery, were met at the airport by Lt Gen Bernardo Barrera, Maj Eduardo Herrera, Panamanian representative to the junta, and Majors Roberto Perez and Edgardo Lopez.

PRESIDENT SIGNS LAW CREATING CIVIL DEFENSE

PA191630 Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 19 Nov 82 pp 1, A-6

[Text] A law creating the civil defense system in Panama was signed this week by President Ricardo de la Espriella.

The law, No 22 of November 15, establishes that the system is created to function strictly on humanitarian principles. It is empowered to execute measures, dispositions and orders aimed at preventing, annulling and diminishing the effects that any action spurred by man or nature could provoke on the life and properties throughout the nation.

It will also coordinate activities required to achieve an integration of all organizations, private and governmental, necessary for the carrying out of related activities.

It will function at national, provincial and municipal levels under the executive branch, and the system's national council will comprise the minister of government and justice as president, the chairman of the National Assembly of Community Representatives, the chief of Panama's Fire Department, the chairman of the National Red Cross the chief of G-5 (civic action) of the National Guard, the minister of public works, minister of health and housing minister.

Among the duties of the National Council are recommendations to the executive and legislative branches on the promulgation of laws, decrees and rulings covering cases of disasters, the declaring of a national emergency, the cessation of the emergency, and to provide funds and resources to face and lessen the effects of disasters.

ARIAS CALDERON OPPOSES MILITARY CANDIDACY

PA211213 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Nov 82 p 1A

[By Vladimir Sandoval]

[Text] "The Christian Democratic Party [PDC] does not endorse the concept of a single military candidacy," PDC President Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon said yesterday.

Dr Arias Calderon made this statement at the celebration of the 22d anniversary of the PDC's 20 November 1960 founding.

"It would be senseless if, after 16 years of being unable to vote for a president, we were to participate in a single-candidacy election," he said.

As for a military candidacy, the PDC president said that "it would turn the National Guard into an electoral presence. The National Guard would become a controversial object and the chance of obtaining a true expression of the people's vote would be distorted."

"We see any official military candidacy as an obstacle to the country's democratization. This worries us. However, we are not concerned over the individual. We are worried by what he represents, by the National Guard's involvement in the party struggle."

We are concerned that within the National Guard command, they are using the duties inherent to the post of commander in chief, the resources placed at his disposal and the prestige of his authority to engage in politics," Dr Arias Calderon added.

Further on, he said that Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, commander in chief of the National Guard, has launched something similar to a pre-electoral campaign. Arias Calderon also said that everyone is aware of Paredes' influence over the changes introduced in the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary Party].

Arias Calderon advocated the amendment of Article 2 of the National Constitution, noting that "it has become a symbol of justification of the National Guard's permanent intervention in all of the state's institutions, which can't be tolerated."

He then said that the PDC will struggle to ensure that the president of the republic is also the supreme chief of the public force, adding that the PDC will not allow the National Guard to become the institution that regulates the other branches of state, as it has been doing so far.

"Within the framework of the substantial changes that will be introduced into the National Constitution, we feel that it is necessary to incorporate a change establishing that it is not the National Guard's task to regulate either the state or its institutions. It must also establish that the National Guard has other very important functions to carry out, in accordance with the statute governing the military profession," the PDC president added.

Concerning changes that have taken place within the PRD, he said that they are negative for the country, as it appears that "a deceitful and truculent political tradition" is being stamped within the ranks of the officialist party, a policy that has negative implications for the Panamanian nation.

Finally, he said that General Paredes is placing his men within the PRD, since everyone knows that he has been influential in the changes recently wrought within that party.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO COSTA RICA -- Luis Carlos Noriega is the Republic of Panama's ambassador to Costa Rica. The 45-year-old brother of National Guard Deputy Chief of Staff Col Manuel Noriega will leave for Costa Rica this week to present his credentials. He replaces Silvio Hernandez, who resigned. [Text] [Panama City STAR AND HERALD in English 14 Nov 82 p 1 PA]

COSTA RICA

REPORTAGE ON 3, 4 DECEMBER REAGAN VISIT

Monge Comments

PA240321 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] President Ronald Reagan is expected to arrive in San Jose on Friday afternoon, 3 December. Saturday morning, President Luis Alberto Monge will receive President Reagan at the Presidential House, where they will meet privately for approximately 20 minutes.

The main reception will be held at the National Theater, where President Reagan is expected to talk about matters of interest to Costa Rica and the Central American region.

Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana will arrive here early Saturday morning for an unofficial visit to meet with President Reagan at breakfast to exchange views on different aspects concerning El Salvador and the status of the pacification efforts. President Magana will remain in Costa Rica for approximately 2 hours and will then return to his country, a Presidential House spokesman said, adding that it is just a brief visit to which Magana has been invited by President Reagan.

On Saturday afternoon President Reagan will fly to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, for a short visit to that country. There he will meet with President Roberto Suazo Cordova and his cabinet. He will return to Costa Rica to take the Presidential plane on his return to the United States.

President Reagan's trip to Honduras will be for a few hours. He will fly there in a plane smaller than Air Force One.

President Monge talked about the importance of President Reagan's visit to our country:

[Begin recording] Besides being a frank demonstration of the solidarity that President Reagan has expressed toward the Costa Rican democracy, we also interpret it as reinforcing the wish expressed by countries like ours for peace in the Central American and Caribbean area. We also interpret it as further proof that President Reagan is not neglecting the economic problems faced by the countries of the area.

Police Circles on Security

PA221400 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] The United States has sent to Costa Rica an airplane equipped with modern communications equipment for President Ronald Reagan's upcoming visit. This sophisticated equipment will be essential for the security measures that the U.S. President's security team will implement.

It has been said in police circles that any action by terrorists or guerrillas is ruled out because any plan or action would be immediately detected.

Program Reported

PA231642 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1610 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] San Jose, 23 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Government and U.S. Embassy officials in Costa Rica are analyzing details of President Ronald Reagan's visit to Costa Rica on 3-4 December.

According to Government House officials, the U.S. President "will probably" arrive in Costa Rica on 3 December at 1800 (0000 GMT) and will be met at the international airport by President Luis Alberto Monge and the members of his cabinet.

Once the official ceremony concludes, amid strict security measures Reagan will travel by helicopter to the residence of U.S. Ambassador Francis McNeil who lives about 12 km from the airport.

According to the tentative program, on 4 December Reagan will have breakfast with Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana at Ambassador McNeil's residence and immediately afterward President Reagan will go to Government House where he will hold several meetings with Monge all morning long.

At noon, Reagan and Monge will have lunch at the National Theater and it has been said that he will probably hold a news conference there.

Reagan is scheduled to leave for Tegucigalpa at 1600 on 4 December.

Extradition Treaty

PA240239 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] A new extradition treaty between the United States and Costa Rica will be signed by President Ronald Reagan and President Luis Alberto Monge on 4 December at the National Theater in San Jose. Members of the cabinet, deputies of the Legislative Assembly and representatives of the business sector and national organizations have been invited to the reception at the National Theater, where Reagan and Monge will speak.

Justice Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez received from the U.S. Embassy a copy of the extradition treaty between the United States and Costa Rica, which showed minor changes to the draft approved during talks held in San Jose by the special commission on the subject, which next Thursday will submit a complete report on the treaty to the Supreme Court of Justice.

Therefore, the extradition treaty will be ready to be signed personally by Reagan and Monge next week. In case another change is necessary, it will be discussed before the arrival of President Reagan.

Volio on Nicaraguan Attacks

PA231335 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] President Ronald Reagan's visit to Costa Rica in early December is to stress the importance that a democratic regime like Costa Rica's has for the United States. Foreign Minister Fernando Volio said this in reply to remarks by members of the Nicaraguan Sandinist government who have said that the visit is one of aggression against Nicaragua.

Volio added that rather than thinking of aggression, President Reagan has wanted to recognize that in Central America there is a country with traditions of democracy and freedom.

Foreign Minister Volio explained that such remarks seek to reduce the significance and importance of the U.S. President's visit to a nation like Costa Rica which maintains a democratic system. The visit must be understood as the Costa Rican people view it. The U.S. President's visit is to discuss subjects of peace, democracy, security and bilateral relations. On concluding, Volio said that everyone is well aware of President Monge's position in the sense that we have neither the intention nor the means to attack any other country.

VOLIO FIRM ON USSR MISSION PERSONNEL REDUCTION

PA231459 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Fernando Volio Jimenez has said that the Foreign Ministry's decision to reduce the number of officials that the Soviet Embassy has accredited in San Jose remains firm. He said that the government will maintain this position.

Questioned about reports that the Soviet Government is preparing a request, based on the Vienna convention, that its personnel in San Jose not be reduced, Volio Jimenez said that he has received no such request. He added that the government will not change its position. Host governments have the power to set the number of officials of the foreign missions and in the case of the Soviets, the decision has already been made, Volio added.

EL SALVADOR

PAPER VIEWS SIGNIFICANCE OF REAGAN TRIP

PA232031 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 23 Nov 82 p 7

[Editorial: "Reagan Will Meet With Four Central American Presidents"]

[Text] During his Latin American tour, U.S. President Ronald Reagan will meet with four Central American presidents: Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova, Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt and Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana.

Initially, President Reagan's trip to Latin America was to include only three countries: Brazil, Colombia and Costa Rica. This was a trip tentatively aimed at softening somewhat the dissatisfaction that the U.S. aid to Great Britain during the Malvinas conflict provoked in Latin America. During Reagan's meetings with the Central American presidents, the South Atlantic case will have to be of secondary importance, taking a backseat to the serious problems that the Central American region is currently facing.

The urgent need for aid adequate to solve these problems will be viewed by President Reagan from a closer perspective. It is possible that he will more clearly see that this is the time for aid, the right moment for quickly finding solutions.

In Central America there are economic, social and political problems, as there are in many other countries and regions, but it would be difficult to find another region where the problems could have a greater impact because of the region's decisive geopolitical position with regard to U.S. foreign policy. Therefore, it is very significant that President Reagan has extended his Latin American tour to exchange ideas and experiences with four chiefs of state of the region.

Undoubtedly, it would be reckless to make predictions about what could be agreed on at the meeting among the chiefs of state of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and the United States.

TRAIN ESCORT SERVICE RESUMED; FARM INTERVENED

PA231919 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 20 Nov 82 p 3

[Text] The Armed Forces Press Committee has announced that the National Guard has resumed its escort service on eastbound trains since El Nino Bridge in San Miguel has been repaired.

It has also been announced that members of the Sonsonate detachment intervened the San Rafael farm, where the workers of the National Agrarian Transformation Center, Centa, had declared a strike. An officer addressed them, they accepted his recommendations and resumed their work.

CURFEW DECLARED IN EL TRIUNFO PORT AREA

PA230447 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] We have received information from the residents of El Triunfo port, in Usulutan Department, that the port captain's office and the civilian patrols have issued an order prohibiting all area residents from going out on the streets after 1800 hours. The order warns that anyone found on the street for any reason whatsoever will be punished.

In view of the repression of the Garcia-D'Aubuisson fascist gang, let us strengthen our organization.

GUATEMALA

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF EXTERMINATING INDIANS

PA232028 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2155 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] United Nations, 22 Nov (EFE) -- According to charges by two representatives of the Quiche tribe, Gen Efrain Rios Montt's government is exterminating the Indian population in Guatemala.

Jose Efrain Rosales Marroquin and Roberta Menchu held a news conference organized by the Committee of Solidarity with the Guatemalan People at the UN church center.

Rosales Marroquin and Menchu are peasants active in agricultural organizations and in the Catholic Church, according to the presentation made by the solidarity committee.

Rosales Marroquin accused President Rios Montt's government, which took power through a coup d'etat last 23 March, of having given military uniforms and an image of legality to the already existing bands of civilian murderers.

Roberta Menchu confirmed Rosales' statement, adding that her parents and siblings had been murdered. "My whole family has been murdered," she said.

The Quiche representatives affirmed that, in the beginning, Rios Montt's government managed to confuse international public opinion but the representatives asserted that "the Indian people, who are the country's largest ethnic group, are being exterminated," and that "the army defends the interests of a few [words indistinct]."

HONDURAS

REPORTAGE ON UPCOMING VISIT OF RONALD REAGAN

Suazo Cordova Meeting

PA240316 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Nov 82 p 3

[Text] Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova, the president of the republic, will greet U.S. President Ronald Reagan in the city of San Pedro Sula, according to information released by the Government Palace. According to this information the presidents of Honduras and the United States decided to meet in San Pedro Sula at a place not yet revealed.

The Honduran chief of state and several of his ministers will discuss with President Reagan matters related to the increase of U.S. aid to Honduras and other political issues, according to the source.

The same source disclosed that the chiefs of state will discuss price difficulties of Honduran products in U.S. markets.

Concerning social aspects, the Honduran officials plan to give the U.S. President an overview of the problems currently affecting the country in agrarian matters, for the purpose of obtaining broader support from the U.S. Government, particularly for the agrarian reform programs of the present government.

Although the visit of the U.S. chief executive is of a protocol nature, the central government will use the occasion to bring up some topics related to the situation of Honduras with regard to the nations of Central America, particularly Nicaragua.

U.S. Embassy sources here also revealed that Reagan's visit to Honduras constitutes support for the democratic regime of President Suazo Cordova; this being one of the main reasons for the visit of President Reagan on 4 December.

Press Department Chief Remarks

PA231528 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Amilcar Santamaria, chief of the government's International Press Department, said that the visits to Honduras by Pope John Paul II and U.S. President Ronald Reagan will have a number of political, economic and social repercussions that will benefit the country. Santamaria added that one of the main reasons for the visit of the President of one of the most powerful nations on earth is to show support for democratic processes.

The two visits will also serve for journalists from all over the world to become acquainted with Honduras' true reality, which has often been seriously distorted.

Reagan, who will be here on 4 December, will meet with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova and with several cabinet ministers. They will discuss matters regarding the sending of the bilateral aid from the northern country. They will also discuss the Caribbean Basin initiative and the U.S. President will be asked to increase [aid] to speed up the agrarian reform program. Many Hondurans have placed their hopes on this program, but still have received no benefits from it.

Santamaria categorically denied that the U.S. and Honduran Armies are going to carry out joint maneuvers prior to President Reagan's arrival. The plan to carry out joint maneuvers has been postponed indefinitely, and the security authorities will have the last word on whether they will be carried out or not, because the maneuvers are included in an agreement signed by the two nations in 1952.

Security Operation Launched

PA231659 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] It was officially confirmed today that U.S. President Ronald Reagan will spend about 2 hours here in Honduras on 4 December. The U.S. President will meet with the Honduran president at the Honduran Air Force facilities, to continue the dialogue opened a few months ago in the White House in Washington.

Government Minister Oscar Mejia Arellano has confirmed that most probably President Reagan will not even visit Tegucigalpa, since he has to be back in the United States on the 4th, when they will be commemorating another anniversary of the elections that led him to the U.S. Presidency [as heard].

The Honduran police, meanwhile, are launching a vast operation beginning today in order to provide the necessary protection for President Reagan. According to the local authorities, the operation consists of keeping watch over the ports of entrance and air and land customs departments in order to prevent the arrival of strange elements in this country, who might boycott [as heard] the U.S. President's visit. Investigations will also be conducted in the interior, and all suspects will be detained until after the U.S. President's departure.

Security Joint Effort

PA231938 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1839 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 23 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- On Friday the Honduran Government will announce the details of U.S. President Ronald Reagan's visit to Tegucigalpa on 4 December.

The Honduran Army and police are holding lengthy work sessions with a large delegation of U.S. Secret Service security experts who arrived in Tegucigalpa 12 hours after the State Department announced Reagan's visit.

A Honduran presidential spokesman explained that security will be extraordinary but efforts will be made to allow the press to do their job.

President Reagan will receive military honors at the Toncontin Internationl Airport and will be met by Honduran Government officials headed by President Roberto Suazo Cordova. Guatemalan President Gen Efrain Rios Montt will probably be present. After the arrival they will go to the headquarters of the Hernan Acosta Mejia military base located at the Toncontin airport.

It is still not known whether Reagan's visit to Tegucigalpa will last 2 or 3 hours.

Some details such as the airport access difficulties of the U.S. Presidential airplane "Air Force One" have been worked out. Unofficially it was learned that Reagan could arrive in Tegucigalpa in another aircraft capable of landing and taking off on short runways.

It was also said unofficially that the agenda to be covered by Presidents Reagan, Suazo Cordova and Rios Montt will be open.

However, it was learned that the main subject to be discussed will be the strife-torn situation in Central America and the possibility that the United States may increase its military aid to the countries that are threatened by subversion.

Among the economic subjects to be discussed, Reagan will be asked to strengthen the financial aid for development programs, facilities to improve trade as well as fairer and more equal export quotas for the countries of the region along with better prices for their products.

Spokesmen for Honduran private enterprise today regretted the fact that the visit will be so short because the U.S. President will not really have a chance to grasp the real scope of the situation.

Meanwhile, the chief of the Honduran secret service, Major Juan Blas Salazar, said that the "preventive security measures" have already been enforced. The police chief gave no details regarding the preventive measures, but it was unofficially learned that persons suspected of having ties with the subversion have been detained.

Police Fear Bomb Explosions

PA240156 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 23 Nov 82 p 2

[Text] The Honduran police fear guerrilla groups may set off bombs on 4 December, when U.S. President Ronald Reagan will arrive in this capital. For this reason they are organizing a large-scale security operation, it was learned yesterday.

During the last 5 months explosions of highly damaging devices and propaganda bombs have taken place on the fourth day of each month. They have been attributed to the FMLN, which poses in Honduras as the "Lorenzo Zelaya" Revolutionary People's Command.

On 4 July bombs exploded at two electric substations in this city, causing direct damages exceeding 3 million lempiras and leaving the capital without power for at least 10 consecutive days.

On 4 August bombs were placed in front of the offices of the Sahsa and Air Florida airlines and the branch of the U.S. firm IBM of Honduras, causing substantial losses and wounding several people.

On 4 September bombs containing propaganda of the "Lorenzo Zelaya" command exploded, and the same thing happened on 4 October. On both occasions, the bombs were placed on pedestrian sidewalks.

The latest bomb explosions in this capital took place on 4 November, when four bombs went off almost simultaneously in front of the old building of the Honduran brewery and at other private firms.

The police are afraid the same thing may occur on 4 December, since the guerrilla groups seek publicity through these actions, and the U.S. President will be accompanied by correspondents of the leading news media in the world.

The large-scale security operation includes tight security at all border posts, particularly those on the border with El Salvador, to keep guerrillas from entering Honduran territory disguised as tourists. Security will also be established at all air and maritime customs installations for the same purposes, and suspicious persons will be arrested.

It has been learned that the security plan will go into effect this week and that the police will receive advice from the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) of the United States of America to neutralize any plan against Ronald Reagan's life.

175 Reportedly Arrested

PA240502 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] A sweeping roundup that was carried out by Honduran police and security units in the last few hours resulted in the arrest of 175 people. Police sources justified the arrests as a precautionary security measure in view of the scheduled arrival of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt in Tegucigalpa on 4 December.

SECRETARY DENIES REPORTED ARMY CASUALTIES

PA241300 Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 23 Nov 82 p 4

[Text] In view of the forthcoming arrival of U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Honduras, Defense Secretary Col Jose Serra Hernandez said that "all security measures dealing with his visit are in the hands of the Presidential House."

Although the official's silence prevented the learning of details of the preparations for Reagan's visit, he did say that "it is false that Honduran soldiers have died in clashes with guerrillas."

"I don't know where they get such news," Serra Hernandez said, adding that "our army is not fighting in El Salvador against anyone. The only thing it is doing on the border is guarding our territorial sovereignty and I repeat that we have no knowledge that any soldier has died."

He clarified that the Honduran Army has not entered "nor will it ever enter Salvadoran territory to fight unless our border is not respected. Unfortunately, I do not know those who run Radio Venceremos, although each has his way of reporting to the world and our office has given no report in this regard."

SUAZO CORDOVA DELIVERS SPEECH 21 NOVEMBER

PA222132 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Speech by President Roberto Suazo Cordova inaugurating the Sabanetas-San Jose del Tarro highway in Santa Barbara Department, on 21 November -- recorded]

[Excerpt] As I have previously said, Suazo Cordova is not one of those overly-ambitious politicians. God and the spirit of Rodas Alvarado [former leader of the Rodista Liberal Movement] know I was always faithful to Rodas during his campaigns, and God knows that I never sought the presidency desperately, as others do. There were special circumstances in 1979. [applause] Rodas Alvarado left this world when our Lord decided it was his time to go. It was then my turn to assume the responsibility, with dignity, courage, and Franciscan patience, of raising the flag of dignity and carrying it proudly on that memorable 29 November 1981 [applause, shouts].

This is another opportunity for the government to show that despite the economic crisis -- which not only affects Honduras, but is due to a process of worldwide economic recession and to a process of inflation, which also has a worldwide effect -- and with the support of the men in uniform -- of the permanent guardsmen of our territorial integrity, sovereignty, our peace and tranquility: commanders, officers, noncommissioned officers and troops of our armed forces -- I have faith that we will go ahead, that we will free our country [applause] from underdevelopment, and that we will maintain peace and tranquillity despite the stealthy attacks of the misfits who try to disrupt public order or try to destabilize the democratic and constitutional government presided over by your friend Suazo Cordova. [applause]

The blue and white flag with five stars will fly here with dignity, not the red and black flag of those who try to provoke chaos and anarchy in this country, as we will never permit anyone, internally or externally, to disrupt our peace. The Honduran people and the armed forces [applause] -- solidly united -- must tell them that our people are intelligent and want to live in peace and tranquillity. This is our sovereign commitment: to maintain the republic's dignity, peace and tranquillity.

With our limited funds -- through the Secretariats of Government and Justice and the Presidential office -- we have assigned a minimum of approximately 150,000 lempiras for each of the departments in the country, and for nearly all of the communities in the 18 departments in the country. [applause]

We will continue giving this help, since as the president of the republic has said before, these funds belong to the Honduran people and must be used for the benefit of the same Honduran people. [applause] The president of the republic will not be stingy with the funds that belong to the Honduran people. This we have sworn before God and the Honduran people, and we have said that we will continue honoring our principle: work. Constant work, as practically for the past three of four Sundays, the president has been in his office working until 1800, even though these were not working days. [applause] This is why the president pays no attention to those who criticize him by saying that I only leave to [words indistinct] peace. [laughter]

I was very happy to embrace here my friend and countryman, Col Roberto Martinez Avila. He knows that our people are celebrating. However, Suzao Cordova offered to come here this morning to be with the men and women of this flourishing village of [name indistinct]. [applause and shouts]

As I also said during my campaign, I will not reply to insults or slander, especially today, as president of the republic. I could use even more hours to finish my daily work, so I have no time to be involved in the quarrels and [word indistinct] of any political party. It does not matter if it is the National Party, the National Innovation and Unity Party, the Christian Democratic Party, or my own party, the Liberal Party, of which I am a very proud member. [applause] The party leaders should be the ones to deliver the message of faith and hope to all members of the Liberal Party. As I have said before, Suazo Cordova is the president of all Hondurans. I must act according to the law and justice in favor of all Hondurans. As we have previously said and demonstrated, those who try to disrupt order will be punished according to the law, as I have the full support of the Armed Forces of Honduras, our beloved fatherland. [applause]

There are probably many teachers here, and I want them to know that if we did not give them a wage increase when their union leaders fomented the strike, it was not because I am not a responsible man but because I knew about the government's financial situation.

However, if the economy improves by next year, I will not need street demonstrations. I will say to them: Dear teachers, this is how our economy stands today, and this is your part, as it is just indeed that the men and women who transmit their knowledge to the children of our country should receive a wage increase.

Suazo Cordova will not act under pressure. I am a quiet and peaceful man, but I am also a man who enforces the law and knows how to give orders, as I must also preserve peace and tranquillity in this country. I have a great responsibility. It would be very accommodating of me to accept the demands of subversive groups in our country only because Suazo Cordova wants or desire to be in the presidency for 4 years. No, gentlemen, my duty and my responsibility is to act with dignity and firmness, so that in 1986 when I hand over the presidency I can repeat the words that I will pronounce here in Tracerros today. Then I will be able to say: Honduran people, Honduran Armed Forces, I have accomplished the mission that the Honduran people entrusted to me on 27 January 1982. [applause and shouts]

My dear friends, men and women of Tracerros and the Department of Santa Barbara, I have been very pleased to see, embrace and greet a group of friends, leaders who accompanied me during the two large campaigns of the Liberal Party, during the electoral campaign before 20 April 1980 and before 29 November 1982. However, as I told you before, the party's politics, worries and projections into the communities are a function to be carried out exclusively by the leaders of the Liberal Party of Honduras. [applause]

I will be in my office ready to attend to your requests. I want you to know that if I have not attended personally to the representatives of all municipalities, it is because I just do not have enough time in view of the many commitments I have at the Presidental Palace. However, this is what the Office for Community Development is for. This is what your leaders, the deputies representing the genuine expression and will of all of you, are supposed to do. Every day, morning and afternoon, they show up asking for subsidies for the various municipal entities, for the various community boards. We may not have met all of their requests, but they understand because they know what the economic situation is.

However, thanks to the measures my government has adopted, the IMF approved the 300 million lempiras, allowing us to finance the deficit in our balance of payments and in our budget.

I want to repeat this, in order for you to become messengers of peace and harmony of the Honduran people: I want to ask all the men and women who are members of the Honduran Liberal Party -- since I cannot give this instruction or make this suggestion to the other parties -- to lend their resolute support to the men in uniform in order to keep alien forces with foreign ideologies from ever coming here to bloody the body and soul of the Honduran people.

We must tell everybody that the people, government and armed forces constitute a monolithic unity against which the gross snaps of the jaws of those who are trying to sow chaos and anarchy will fail.

We must realize that we face a semicircle of turmoil and that subversion is being sent to us from other countries. However, we must [word indistinct] this commitment, first to God and then to our fatherland and people, to answer the roll call and remain united so that our five-star blue and white flag will wave always victorious in the hearts of all Hondurans. Thank you very much.

ALVAREZ 'ADMITS' PACT WITH GUATEMALA, SALVADOR

PA221445 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 21 Nov 82

[Text] Gen Gustavo Alvarez Martinez, chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, has admitted that a holy alliance has been formed among his country and the Salvadoran and Guatemalan regimes to attack the Nicaraguan revolution and repress popular struggles in the rest of Central America.

In a statement to a Mexican station, the so-called Honduran strongman exhorted the United States to further increase its military aid to his country. According to him, subversion has been dismantled in Honduras.

In what has been described as open interference in Salvadoran domestic affairs, Alvarez Martinez said there will be no dialogue between the regime and the democratic-revolutionary forces in the neighboring country. According to him, the latter should be completely wiped out.

As has already been reported, Honduran and Salvadoran military units are participating in the struggle against the FMLN guerrillas.

Washington has increased tenfold its military cooperation with Honduras over the past 3 years.

NICARAGUA

REAGAN TOUR 'REFLECTS INTEREST IN AREA CONFLICTS'

PA230500 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] Washington, 22 Nov -- President Reagan's tour through Latin America, which originally had been scheduled above all as an attempt to try and ease the discontent caused as a result of the Malvinas crisis, is acquiring an increasingly Central American tint.

The White House has confirmed that Ronald Reagan will take advantage of his stay in Costa Rica to meet for the first time with Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana, and that in Honduras, added at the last moment to the other countries in the tour -- Brazil, Colombia and Costa Rica -- he will meet with Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt.

Although the meetings with four Central American presidents are not exactly the mini-summit conceived at one time by the Reagan administration, they reflect Washington's increasing interest in the area's conflicts and the urgent need to strengthen U.S. positions in view of the desire for independence expressed by the peoples of the area.

U.S. ACCUSED OF TRYING TO BUY AREA ALLIES

PA232002 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Eligio Alvarez commentary: "Mr Reagan's Dirty Business"]

[Text] Mr Reagan's much publicized visit to Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica and Honduras continues to provoke all kinds of comment regarding the true purpose of the trip that, according to the State Department, will begin on 30 November.

All the information on this trip points out that Reagan's trip is to stress the importance of democracy and democratic institutions, the importance of protecting Central and South America from military invasions and the importance of strengthening economic ties with this region.

To this "importance" we must add the most recent reports that Mr Reagan will be accompanied by Treasure Secretary Donald Regan and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige. If this is true, it would add another very important factor: Mr Reagan is coming not only to try and adjust the mechanisms of the Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty, TIAR, but also to buy the consciences of those who will lend themselves to his "dirty business" as THE NEW YORK TIMES describes it.

In other words, Mr Reagan and those accompanying him are bringing, in one hand, a generous checkbook to buy consciences and, in the other, a wide variety of deadly weapons to pit brother against brother in order to safeguard U.S. national security that, according to Mr Reagan, is the same as safeguarding the security of the Free World and democracy.

DEPUTY JUSTICE MINISTER ARRESTED BY STATE AGENTS

PA240023 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1757 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Text] Managua, 23 Nov (ACAN-EFE) -- Unofficial sources reported today that Alberto Gamez Ortega, Nicaraguan deputy justice minister, has been arrested at his home by state security agents. Even though the deputy minister was arrested on Friday, to date his family, friends and authorities have not revealed the reason for this action.

Until recently Gamez Ortega occupied the office of Managua prosecuting attorney and was responsible for presenting accusations against persons being tried for violating the maintenance of order and public security law. He was appointed deputy justice minister after Ernesto Castillo Martinez was released from this position to become president of the Managua Council for Higher Education.

DANIEL ORTEGA ON HONDURAN 'ATTACKS', REAGAN TRIP

PA232213 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 23 Nov 82

[Excerpts from "Face the People" Program with Junta Coordinator Commander Daniel Ortega and Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the junta, on 19 November in the Jose Benito Escobar neighborhood in Managua -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Ortega] Good evening, companeros. Today we are holding this "Face the People" in the Jose Benito Escobar neighborhood. Besides dealing with the various local community problems and listening to your concerns about them, we want to specifically refer to a subject that is always present: the defense of our revolutionary process.

We must state that so far we have not noticed any change on the part of those who are supporting the activity of the Somozist guardsmen from Honduran territory. We say this because there have been some reports and actions that might lead to the misinforming of our people. Based on some statements and reports broadcast by Nicaraguan stations and published by the newspapers, we might think there has been a change of attitude; and due to the fact that we received the Honduran foreign secretary in our country, we might have the illusion that the situation is going to change with regard to the support given in Honduras to the criminal guardsmen who launch criminal actions against our people.

False expectations or hopes might also arise because some U.S. official or the U.S. secretary of state might make some remarks in this regard. We say this because there is a newspaper here, a rightwing newspaper, that tries to create expectations in this regard. It is trying to give a good image to the politicians who head the U.S. Administration. The reality is what we are experiencing every day. The reality is that every day crimes are being committed in the border zone; in the zone of Jalapa, in Madriz Department; in Nueva Segovia Department; in Jinotega Department; and in Chinandega Department. Crimes are daily being committed in the border region.

They kidnap technicians. Today they kidnapped an agricultural technician. They murder peasants. Yesterday or the day before, they killed another peasant. In other words, while they give the appearance of wanting to reach an understanding, of holding a dialogue with Nicaragua, and while we are willing to hold a dialogue with them and we receive them, the crimes continue to be repeated in the border zone.

That is why we think it is important that we not lower our guard. We cannot lower our guard because the attacks continue and their plans include attacks on a larger scale. Those are the ones they plan to carry out in December. For the month of December there has also been talk of U.S.-Honduran military meanuvers. The North Americans have talked of suspending the maneuvers. But why suspend them? Apparently because Mr Reagan is going to visit Costa Rica. Now he announces that he is going to visit Honduras. He is going to visit countries he is trying to turn completely against our people. Therefore, under those circumstances, naturally it was not advisable for him to carry out the military maneuvers. They apparently have delayed them, but they are not canceling them completely. They are not saying that they will not carry out military maneuvers; they are simply saying that they are suspending them for the time being.

All of this shows us that revolutionary vigilance cannot be lowered, and that the people's joining of the militias cannot be delayed. It must continue, and it must be in a more extensive and permanent way. The people must continue to join the reserve battalions. The reserve battalions must continue to be strengthened. An organized and armed people is our main instrument to face and defeat any kind of aggression. Now then, as we have said many times, those attacks are not going to scare or make us backtrack. It is important that we state this. There are politicians in Nicaragua, specifically politicians of the Conservative Party -- a party that exists in name only in this country and has few members -- who in the face of this situation of aggression and threats that Nicaragua is experiencing, have dared to write a letter that they plan to send to Latin American rulers, such as the Mexican and Venezuelan presidents, in which, among other things, they propose that a discussion is necessary to end the international tension in the Central American region and so that there will no longer be threats of war and such things.

They say that the Sandinists are responsible for this whole situation. Therefore, they say that the Sandinists must sit down with the opposition in Nicaragua and also with the armed opposition on the Nicaraguan borders. According to these gentlemen, they -- the Somozist Guardsmen who are carrying out the armed opposition against our people -- and the revolutionary government should sit down together. The attitude of these gentlemen can only be described as a provocation. It is a provocation because they are showing disrespect for our people. They are abusing the opportunity they have to organize in this country and to have their party in this country. They are making a proposal that goes completely against the nation's interests.

It is inconceivable that someone could at this time propose that we sit down and hold a dialogue with these criminal guardsmen. We can only reply to those criminal guardsmen with bullets, lead and imprisonment. This is a proposal that they have made, thinking that we are frightened and that they can easily achieve their ends. They do not realize that the people cannot accept such a proposal. The people cannot accept it and sit down to hold discussions with the guardsmen. Those gentlemen began to circulate that letter yesterday. Those gentlemen are really committing a crime.

All of these actions show that the aggressiveness is maintained, that aggression continues, that the plans continue, that companeros continue to die. But of course we are not going to let ourselves be frightened by this because we know that all revolutions always confront counterrevolutionary activity. This is a real revolution and we will be confronting this counterrevolutionary activity for a long time.

[Question by unidentified individual] My first question is what repercussions will Reagan's visit to Costa Rica have on our revolution?

[Ortega] Regarding Mr Reagan's visit to Costa Rica, we have to view it as a gesture or attempt to try to recover his image in Latin America and the Caribbean. The visit is not only to Costa Rica. He will visit Costa Rica, Honduras, Colombia and Brazil. He plans to visit four ccuntries. Why is Mr Reagan doing this at this time? He has been promoting a policy of aggression against the Latin American and Caribbean peoples, an arrogant policy, a policy that attacks our people and all the Latin American and Caribbean peoples politically, economically and militarily.

When the colonialist aggression occurred, that is, the British aggression in the Malvinas Islands, which belong to Argentina and which Argentina tried to recover, the United States, which forms part of an organization of all Latin America and the Caribbean called the OAS, turned its back on that organization and sided with the British colonialists. It turned against Argentina because Argentina wanted to recover the islands that belonged to it. In the Malvinas war, the United States sided with the British. As a result of this, many Latin American and Caribbean governments lost their illusions about the United States. Among other things, this provoked a rejection of the current U.S. Administration's policy by many Latin American and Caribbean governments, which have even begun to discuss the idea of establishing a regional organization without the United States because the interests of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, the countries from Mexico down to Chile, are totally different from the interests of the United States. What is more, U.S. interests clash with the interests of our peoples.

They attack our peoples' interests. Therefore we can't be together with them in an organization, as we are now in the OAS. The OAS is a regional organization, and all Latin American and Caribbean countries are represented in it as well as the United States. The OAS generally lacks force because the United States is there. Latin America and the Caribbean can't present a common front vis-a-vis U.S. political, military and economic policies. The United States, therefore, can do as it pleases.

However, as I was saying earlier, the situation has been gradually changing.

All the political and military actions that the United States has tried to launch against the Central American peoples as part of its policy -- more specifically against the Salvadoran people, who are fighting for their independence and freedom, and against the Nicaraguan people, who have already attained their independence and freedom -- have crashed against the firm stand held by a good many Latin American and Caribbean governments, which reject this aggressive and interventionist U.S. stance. You may have also read of the many Latin American governments that have been voicing their opposition to a possible Yankee intervention in Central America. Many Latin American and Caribbean presidents and foreign ministers have been voicing their opposition to a possible Yankee intervention in either El Salvador or Nicaragua or a Yankee attack against Nicaragua.

However, the biggest blow dealt to the United States was the recent vote at the UN Security Council, where Nicaragua was the candidate of the world's peoples, and where the United States tried to get votes in order to prevent a Nicaraguan victory. In other words, they were trying to obtain votes against Nicaragua in order to prevent a Nicaraguan victory. Even so, Nicaragua managed to obtain a resounding victory. Nicaragua obtained 104 votes from the 156 countries that are represented in the United Nations, that is, countries from all over the world. Of the total 156 countries that are represented at the United Nations, 104 countries voted in favor of Nicaragua, that is, they gave their support to Nicaragua; only 50 did not vote in favor of Nicaragua.

In view of this, Mr Reagan is now visiting several Latin American countries in an effort to recover some of his image, in an effort to make believe that he wants to move closer to Latin America and the Caribbean. This is simply a propaganda maneuver. The embrace that Mr Reagan might give either the Costa Rican or Honduran rulers will help neither the Costa Rican nor Honduran peoples. Reagan simply seeks to further involve the Honduran and Costa Rican Governments in an action characterized by political isolation and armed aggressiveness -- in other words, permitting the armed actions of the Somozist groups that operate against Nicaragua so they can step up their attacks against our country. Both the presidents of Honduras and Costa Rica must know full well the intention that lies behind Reagan's embrace. Reagan's embrace brings with it blood, death and disgrace for Central America. It brings no benefits, I don't think -- and this is something that both the rulers of Costa Rica and Honduras know perfectly well -- that Mr Reagan's embrace will result in any kind of benefit that will help alleviate the economic crisis in those nations. Mr Reagan is not coming to solve their economic problem, their huge foreign debt problem, the unemployment problem in Costa Rica, Honduras, or anywhere else in Central America. He is not coming to do any of this. He is merely coming to bolster the aggressive actions against Nicaragua. He wants to further involve these governments. We hope that they will open their eyes and will realize that this type of visit, and lending themselves to this type of behavior, in no way benefits them.

The Honduran and Costa Rican peoples can see this clearly. In its plans against Nicaragua, the United States has been able to secure strong support from a sector of the Honduran Army, which is cooperating fully in the U.S. schemes. That is the purpose of his trip. These elements, however, should realize that to the degree to which the regional situation becomes increasingly critical from the political and military standpoint, and to the degree to which they serve as instruments in the U.S. plans against Nicaragua, tragedy, bloodshed and death will affect us all, not just Nicaragua. Meanwhile, Mr Reagan will remain safe up there because the bloodshed will not reach him.

The only thing left to do in this case is to search for a political solution to the problem, through dialogue and discussion. We have already explained all of this to Honduran Foreign Minister Paz Barnica, who visited here recently. We told him that instead of so many meetings, we must hold a high-level discussion, as was recommended by Mexico and Venezuela. The presidents of Mexico and Venezuela have proposed that Honduras and Nicaragua meet with them. We in turn have proposed this to Honduras. We proposed this to Mr Paz Barnica. Let's see what their answer is.

We will see what their answer is, because there is a reply that we see every day, and it is the dead people on the border. This is the truth. Regardless of what they say, the truth is that people are dying on the border and that the guardsmen are there in their camps, well armed, supplied and supported by the sectors of the Honduran Army that serve U.S. interests.

This is what we can say about Reagan's visit to Costa Rica. Reagan will also visit Honduras. This was announced today. We received reports on this. Mr Reagan is going to visit Honduras too.

[Question by unidentified individual] What is Nicaragua's role at the United Nations? What will other countries do if we are attacked? What are the possibilities for the local militias to be armed, because we are willing to respond to any attack by the counterrevolution?

[Ramirez Mercado] The United Nations has a higher organization or committee made up of 15 members. Some of these 15 members are permanent members. They are the world's big powers: The USSR, the PRC, the United States, France and the United Kingdom. However, there are some other countries that are elected every 2 years. These countries are elected by regions or continents. Thus Latin America, Asia, Africa and Europe get to have a representative. Therefore, what was decided in this assembly, the annual assembly that is concluding just now, was which Latin American country would replace Panama which was the previously elected country.

Generally, the countries that represent these continents usually agree on a single candidate, which they propose at the assembly, and this candidate is elected. But in Latin America, because of the divisionist policy of the United States, it has never been possible for all countries to agree on a single candidate.

In the past, every time Cuba tried to become a member of this UN Security Council, the United States blocked Cuba and divided Latin America. This is the great failure that the Reagan government suffered now, because the Reagan administration tried to get the Dominican Republic elected. We are not going to say that the Dominican Republic lent itself to this game, but the United States was supporting the Dominican Republic. The United States didn't really want the Dominican Republic elected. It just wanted to prevent Nicaragua from being elected. Two thirds of the votes are needed to be elected. In other words, of 156 votes we needed 102. This was something very difficult to attain. Therefore, the United States was trying to get more votes for the Dominican Republic to prevent Nicaragua from getting the 102 votes, in order to pull a third country out of its sleeve and thus block Nicaragua's aspirations. However, thanks to the prestige of our revolution abroad -- because Nicaragua is not only a country known in Latin America but on all continents, and in addition we have very close relations with countries we never dreamed of having ties with in the past....

[Changes thought] You remember how Mozambican President Samora Machel, a leader of black Africa, came here. Along with Mozambique there are many other black African countries that are on the side of Nicaragua. We have ties of friendship with countries such as Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, which are Indochinese countries [words indistinct] and many countries of the Third World. Consequently, when Nicaragua's candidacy was proposed, we had great support at the United Nations.

Thanks to the political work done by Nicaragua -- we sent many companeros from the Foreign Ministry and the FSLN, headed by Foreign Minister D'Escoto, to do this work in New York; they spent 2 months working with all the countries of the world -- and thanks to Nicaragua's prestige, we are now members of the UN organization that decides the most important matters of the world.

For this reason, beginning on 1 January we have a very serious and delicate responsibility because we will have to give our opinion and vote on issues involving world peace.

Nicaragua, despite the fact that it is a small country, but as a country with a revolution and a country that has a prestigious government, will sit there with the most important countries in the world to decide on matters of great importance not only for Central America and Latin America but for all the regions of the world where world peace is at stake.

This is why this victory is so great for Nicaragua. This is why the Reagan administration didn't want us to be members of the UN Security Council; and just as it didn't want us to be members of the UN Security Council, the United States wanted Honduras to be the chairman of the OAS foreign ministers meeting that just concluded in Washington, but again the United States failed because the Honduran foreign secretary wasn't elected chairman of the meeting. This shows the difference in prestige between Nicaragua, a country with a revolution, and Honduras, which, thanks to the Yankee policy of using it as a base of aggression against Nicaragua, has earned a bad reputation and was thus rejected for the role of chairman of that important organization.

Therefore, we can be sure that Nicaragua has a position of great prestige in the world. We can be sure that we are a country that is loved and respected.

Regarding your question about the aggression, the very fact that Nicaragua was elected to a UN Security Council seat; the very fact that a meeting of foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries will be held here in January, and that more than 60 foreign ministers of Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America will come here; and the very fact that Nicaragua was elected chairman of the Panamerican Health Organization -- these very important world developments strengthen the political influence that Nicaragua has.

The fact that a country like Colombia now states that it will not attend a meeting in which Nicaragua hasn't been invited [words indistinct] the so-called forum of San Jose where Nicaragua was excluded and the fact that Panama refused to sign the document issued at the San Jose meeting -- a meeting promoted by the United States to isolate Nicaragua -- give us political strength and help weaken the chances of the Yankees and the Somozist [word indistinct] to carry out an aggression against or invasion of our territory.

The fact that a government like that of Bolivia was elected, the fact that the government of Siles Zuazo is a friend of Nicaragua and the fact that a government like that of Felipe Gonzalez in Spain or of Olof Palme in Sweden are friends of our revolution and are world leaders -- these things make imperialism really wonder if it is truly advisable to invade us or to give the green light to the Somozist Guardsmen to invade Nicaragua.

However, this does not mean that the danger of an aggression or an invasion is gone, as Commander Ortega was saying, we have people killed on the border every day. They are killing our agricultural experts, our teachers and our coffee pickers.

From the Yankee viewpoint, our revolution is a very bad example for the rest of Latin America because it shows that a small and weak country can achieve anything when it decides as a people to move forward, overthrow a dictatorship and proclaim itself independent. We have shown the Yankees that this can be done.

DANIEL ORTEGA GRANTS INTERVIEW TO PATRIA LIBRE

PA220320 Managua PATRIA LIBRE in Spanish Sep 82 pp 34-40

[Report on interview with Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega Saavedra by Freddy Balzan -- date and place not given -- uppercase denotes boldface as published -- quotation marks as published]

[Text] It is the same "Daniel," as the people call him, whom we have seen on countless occasions at the Plaza of the Revolution, of the 19 July Plaza, and whose words we have read in the Managua newspapers while he was on pilgrimages throughout the world in search of peace for Nicaragua and Central America.

This evening he has interrupted his many activities as coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction in order to talk to PATRIA LIBRE before returning to, or rather, before resuming his endless activities on behalf of the people and the revolution "because I must still review a lot of material from the National Directorate."

he speaks slowly, calmly. Very analytical, he is aware of the fact that big, dark clouds are hovering over Nicaragua, the threats of an enemy that never rests and whose Machiavellian plans seek to destroy this true revolution placed at the service of the humble and the exploited.

A few days ago we watched him on television, very seriously and attentively listening to Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto as he reminded the entire diplomatic corps on Independence Day that Honduran forefather Francisco Morazan's dreams of Central American unity have not yet materialized.

This will apparently be a rainy night, but there is still a good breeze. Outside, only the sound of crickets breaks the silence or pauses that occur during the interview.

His olive green uniform with its white stars and small red and black laurel leaves -- the uniform of a commander of the revolution -- remind us of those difficult years in the 1960's when, alongside a handful of heroes still in their teens, like Julio Bruitrago, he confronted the tyranny's all-encompassing power as a member of the urban guerrillas.

"ON THE EVE OF AN OUTCOME"

HOW WOULD YOU EVALUATE THE CURRENT SITUATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA?

"We might say we have reached one of the most critical moments in a situation that has been characterized by rising tension and has now reached its most delicate point. I think, therefore, that we are on the eve of an outcome that will occur within the next few weeks or even days."

WHAT KIND OF AN OUTCOME?

There are only two alternatives for an outcome. One, which is beneficial for all our peoples, the one that Nicaragua wants, would provide a political solution to the area's tense situation by dialogue and political discussions. These would logically include negotiations, particularly with the United States.

"The other alternative, which we do not want here in Nicaragua and which in no way would benefit either the peoples or the various sectors that comprise Central American society, would call for a belligerent solution, a military confrontation. The latter is being encouraged and promoted by those who want the destruction of peace in the area and of the Sandinist people's revolution."

"We know that the present U.S. Administration's policy is behind all this. We want to draw the attention of the world's peoples, because those intent on provoking a war are those who are sure that the bombs will neither fall on their countries nor destroy their cities. They know that the blood of their people will not run in the streets.

We know that the Central American peoples and countries will have to pay the cost of this war that we repudiate. We know that the cities destroyed and the blood shed will be those of our peoples."

THE IRRATIONAL U.S. POLICY

IN YOUR VIEW, WHAT DEVELOPMENTS PROVE THE TOTAL RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES IN A WAR THAT WOULD AFFECT THE CENTRAL AMERICAN NATIONS AND PEOPLES AND THAT MIGHT HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FOR WORLD PEACE?

"For one thing, the present U.S. administration has maintained very clear positions, in keeping with its electoral platform. For instance, they showed their warmongering and world hegemonic inclinations by refusing to vote at the UN Security Council in favor of resolving political problems through dialogue and negotiations, and completely forsaking the path marked by aggression. The United States did this despite the fact that the majority voted in favor of this resolution. This proves that the United States is willing to resort to war in order to solve its problems in Central America, and more specifically its problems with the Sandinist people's revolution. Furthermore, certain developments have surfaced at the U.S. Congress and in the U.S. media, such as the charge concerning the $19 million to finance CIA plans intended to destabilize the revolutionary government. The U.S. administration has never denied this. On the contrary, these charges have been confirmed."

"Another development," Commander Ortega goes on, "concerns the statements made by President Reagan and other high-ranking officials of his administration to the effect that no option has been discarded with regard to regional problems, particularly with regard to the Sandinist people's revolution."

"There are also the charges full of falsehoods and lies that are constantly being made against Nicaragua. In recent months U.S. foreign policy has vigorously sought to make the U.S. and other peoples believe a confrontation is underway in Central America between Honduras and Nicaragua.

This psychological warfare is intended to promote the fallacy that the problem does not entail a confrontation between the United States and Central America or Nicaragua. They have launched a propaganda campaign according to which the inevitability of a war between Nicaragua and Honduras is normal. Meanwhile, they are creating the necessary climate to provoke a war."

THE "ALTERNATIVES" WITH THE MIGS

"Nor can we ignore the charge repeatedly being made in the United States by the U.S. Government and its spokesmen that the MIG planes destined for Nicaragua are already in Cuba. According to them, they are studying the alternatives: either bombing them on Cuban territory or bombing them once they're here in Nicaragua. They say this as if it were the most natural thing. To all of these elements, circumstances and facts, one would have to add the existence of mercenary camps in Florida, the increasing number of Somozist counterrevolutionaries on Honduran territory and along the border with Nicaragua and the weapons that the CIA has continued to send through the Honduran Army to the Somozist guardsmen -- Fal rifles that since 4 July have been used in criminal attacks against our people.

THE SYMMS AMENDMENT

"If to all this we add the Symms amendment and the statements made by certain Honduran military officers who applaud the possibility of U.S. intervention in the area, peace in the area is seen to be confronting a very serious situation. To this we would have to add the U.S. Government's current efforts to officially compromise the Honduran and Costa Rican Governments.

THE POSITIVE ASPECTS

"Of course, we can't ignore the positive aspects, such as the statements made by the Honduran Government, particularly by President Roberto Suazo, who has said that they do not want a war, that they want a dialogue in order to seek a solution for this problem. One would also have to describe the Costa Rican president's statement as a positive development. We have to look for these positive aspects. We can see that the outcome is near at hand, and we hope it is reached by way of dialogue and a political solution rather than through war.

THE LETTER FROM MEXICO AND VENEZUELA

AS IF TO ENDORSE COMMANDER ORTEGA'S VERY SERIOUS ASSUMPTIONS, A FEW HOURS AGO THE INTERNATIONAL NEWS MEDIA RELEASED A LETTER SIGNED BY MEXICAN PRESIDENT JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO AND VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT LUIS HERRERA CAMPINS. THE LETTER URGES THE U.S. PRESIDENT TO USE HIS GOOD OFFICES IN ORDER TO AVOID "DANGEROUS POSSIBILITIES." WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THIS?

"We believe that, under the circumstances, the letter sent by the presidents of Mexico and Venezuela to Presidents Reagan and Suazo Cordova and to me as coordinator of the government junta represents the greatest effort made at a time when we are at the threshold of an outcome. Logically, we expect a receptive attitude and positive results from both the United States and Honduras. On our part, the initiative deserves our entire support."

5,000 FORMER GUARDSMEN AT THE BORDER

THE MEDIA VARY IN THEIR ESTIMATES OF THE NUMBER OF FORMER SOMOZIST GUARDSMEN AND MERCENARIES WHO HAVE COME FROM THE TRAINING CAMPS THAT THE CIA FINANCES IN FLORIDA AND CALIFORNIA.

COULD YOU TELL US HOW MANY COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES ARE STATIONED ALONG THE BORDER WITH NICARAGUA AND HOW MANY THERE ARE IN ZELAYA NORTE DEPARTMENT?

"We can confirm that there are about 5,000 former Somozist guardsmen along the border, grouped and organized into military units the chiefs of which are former officers of the Somozist guard who have been combat trained. In addition, other retrogressive elements and criminals have joined them. In all, there are between 5,000 and 6,000 men. These are introduced deep into our territory to carry out very specific missions, such as the sabotage of bridges, roads, etc."

SUCH AS THE ONES WHO DESTROYED THE TRUCKS IN IYAS?

"Right. Those who entered the Iyas area on 30 August also sought to destroy the bridge in order to obstruct the road along that side of Zelaya. This would facilitate in-depth operations launched from the border, on the Nicaraguan Atlantic zone, thus reducing the possibility that the Sandinist armed forces might help people in the area fight the former Somozist guardsmen."

We can't say there's a fixed number of them here. We must talk about units that come in, infiltrate themselves, hit and leave again. Some are here on a more permanent basis, but their number varies constantly."

A TRAGEDY THAT AFFECTS THE WORLD

OBSERVERS, EXPERTS AND CORRESPONDENTS HAVE COMPARED THE TWO ECONOMIC CONFERENCES HELD RECENTLY IN TORONTO AND MANAGUA. WHILE IN THE FORMER THE UNITED STATES RESORTED TO ITS ECONOMIC POWER WITHIN THE IMF AND THE WORLD BANK TO CLOSE ALL THE PATHS TO THE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES, THUS MAKING EVEN MORE SERIOUS AND CRITICAL THE DRAMATIC SITUATION THAT A FOREIGN DEBT EXCEEDING $570 BILLION REPRESENTS FOR THOSE NATIONS, AT THE FAO MEETING IN MANAGUA ALTERNATIVES WERE SOUGHT TO SOLVE THE AREA'S FOOD PROBLEMS. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THIS?

"We are faced with a totally irrational policy that yields its negative fruits in many ways. One of these negative aspects is that our peoples have to bear the crushing weight of that hegemonic policy, which to some extent is also borne by the capitalist and developed countries allied with the United States. Like it or not, they too must help sustain that hegemony."

We have witnessed the fact that the United States hasn't stopped for a single moment, caring very little about attacking everyone in order to strengthen its role as first economic and military power."

"We are really witnessing a tragedy that is disturbing to the entire world. What is left is a united policy on the part of the Third World countries. The developed countries -- particularly France, Italy, England and the FRG -- must also urgently implement a determined policy. They must demand from the United States a more rational policy that does away with hegemonic U.S. aspirations and forces the United States to behave in accordance with today's reality. These countries should force the United States to engage in coexistence at all levels: ideological, military and economic."

A MORATORIUM OR A DEBACLE

DO YOU THINK THAT YOUR PROPOSAL ABOUT A MORATORIUM ON THE FOREIGN DEBT OF ALL THOSE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED OR WELL RECEIVED IN THE FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS CONTROLLED BY THE UNITED STATES?

"Former Costa Rican President Jose Figueres has said our suggestion about a moratorium is a bit conservative. However, we feel that this proposition offers a solution for everyone. The alternative is simply disastrous because our countries can't really pay."

"We therefore believe that our proposal is a more logical and rational means of solving the problem. Otherwise, a debacle will ensue. We are already witnessing the first effects in those countries that cannot pay."

LOPEZ PORTILLO HAS SET A STANDARD

ARE THERE OTHER SOLUTIONS FOR THE NATIONS THAT ARE IN THAT SITUATION?

"Of necessity this situation would lead to a search for new political alternatives and above all regarding relations with the developed countries that finance us, simply because when a nation cannot pay its debts a shock occurs. Instead of rebellions being staged in those countries, as several commentators have suggested -- a proposition that I don't consider realistic, however -- solutions like the one implemented by Mexican President Lopez Portillo, who nationalized his country's banks, will be put into effect. It is obvious that Lopez Portillo has set a standard for all countries in a similar situation, since there are dozens of nations where the banks are not nationalized."

WOULD THIS REPRESENT AN EXPANSION AT THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LEVELS?

"Of course this represents an expansion at the political and social levels that might have unforeseeable consequences. That is indisputable because the nationalization of the banks would depend on the behavior of the affected sectors. History tells us that, as a rule, whenever the minority sectors are affected by necessary measures like this one, which benefit the majority, the former react negatively. However, in this case I think that it will all depend on the reaction of the developed countries allied to the United States, which are the ones that can talk sense to it. This does not mean that we underestimate the strength that we, the so-called developing countries, have. To the extent that we achieve a common policy, we will become a formidable force, capable of leading the developed countries to different positions."

THE FAO CONFERENCE

WHAT CONCLUSIONS DID THE GOVERNMENT JUNTA REACH AT THE REGIONAL FAO CONFERENCE?

"We think it was a conference of great political importance for the Nicaraguan revolution because it confirmed that the international community trusts our process. It also showed that the efforts made in the United States to isolate us have failed.

"The conference also allowed us to link our experiences to those of other countries, governments and peoples and to discuss current Central American problems."

"It also resulted in contributions toward greater cooperation: FAO General Director Edouard Saouma and Agricultural Development Minister Commander Jaime Wheelock signed several important agreements."

IN RECENT MONTHS, MANKIND HAS WITNESSED IN AMAZEMENT THE ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE MALVINAS ISLANDS AND LEBANON. SOME COMMENTATORS EVEN FEEL THAT AS PART OF THIS BELLIGERENT PICTURE CENTRAL AMERICA WILL BE NEXT. WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THIS?

"Our current problems are derived from the hegemonic stand adopted by the Reagan administration. When it attacks the Malvinas it is acting in keeping with its hegemonic military policy. This is also the case when it attacks West Beirut or particularly the Sandinist revolution, and creates the necessary conditions to do this.

In other words, we are facing a really dangerous policy that threatens world peace. We could even say that mankind has never before been on the verge of explosion the way it is now due to an adventurous policy that throughout history has led people into countless wars.

"But never before has an adventurous policy been backed by as destructive an arsenal as the Reagan administration has in its hands. This arsenal can cause the destruction of mankind even if there is a subsequent defensive response -- because we know that in any event, if a world war breaks out, the Americans will be the first to shoot.

"We are sure that no other country will press the button first, but the damage will have been done, and it will mean the destruction of mankind."

LATIN AMERICA WILL BE ON NICARAGUA'S SIDE

IN THE FACE OF THE THREAT OF A LARGE-SCALE U.S. ATTACK ON NICARAGUA, OR OF THE REGIONALIZATION OF THE WAR IN CENTRAL AMERICA, HOW DO YOU THINK THE OTHER LATIN AMERICAN PEOPLES WILL REACT?

"We are absolutely sure that in case of an aggression against Nicaragua most Latin American governments and peoples will be on the side of the Nicaraguan people and their Sandinist people's revolution."

MIGUEL D'ESCOTO PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO BULGARIA

For Sofia Domestic Service and BTA coverage of the visit to Bulgaria of Foreign Affairs Minister Miguel D'Escoto, see the Bulgaria section of the 24 November Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

CORRECTION TO OFFICIAL ANALYZES SOVIET AID

In the item entitled "Official Analyzes Present, Future Soviet Aid," published in the 19 November Latin America DAILY REPORT on page P 12, on page P 13, antepenultimate paragraph, change to: "He stressed that interest rates are quite low, averaging between 2.5 and 3 percent a year, and that the average payment periods are between 10 to 12 years of grace periods. [sentence as published]" rewording and adding editorial notation.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

OLADE ISSUES STATEMENT AT MONTEVIDEO MEETING

PY221619 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 22 Nov 82

[Text] The continent's energy ministers who participated in the OLADE meeting have begun to leave Uruguay.

The ministers and experts who participated for several days in the meeting have signed a document in which they assert that Latin American countries should not shoulder the crisis that is affecting industrialized countries. They also blame those countries for all the problems that the region is facing.

The document indicates that Latin America's problem are the product of a combination of external factors, together with others of a structural nature.

It adds that the changes that are being demanded must be made at the level of North-South relations, but they will also involve the internal mechanisms of each country, whether or not they pertian to development.

The OLADE ministers asserted that a reform in the international monetary system will also be necessary. This system, they say, must be capable of promoting a really true transfer of resources to less favored nations and it must contain sound guidelines for cooperation to eliminate current gaps.

In conclusion the document indicates that a considerable transfer of resources from the wealthier countries to the poorer countries is necessary.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ANTI-IMPERIALIST UNION CONCERNED OVER IADB VISIT

FL181930 Santo Domingo Radio Commercial Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 18 Nov 82

[Text] The anti-imperialist Patriotic Union, UPA, has condemned the presence of a mission from the Inter-American Defense Board [IADB] in the country. UPA President Dr Ignacio Rodriguez Chiappini told Noti-Tiempo that the mission's visit worried that leftist organization. He said the IADB is a mechanism created by the United States for control and hegemony over Latin American nations. This mechanism made it possible for fraternal armies to intervene in our country in 1965, thus legalizing direct U.S. intervention, the UPA president said.

Dr Rodriguez Chiappini pointed out that this same mechanism, the IADB, did not even take a stand during the Malvinas war because it was controlled by those who were in favor of Great Britain.

It is through this same mechanism, the UPA president continued, that the Honduran Army could be used against El Salvador and Nicaragua, the Argentine Army against El Salvador, or the Brazilian Army against Uruguay and Paraguay.

Dr Ignacio Rodriguez Chiappini concluded by pleading that Dominican soldiers should never be killed on foreign soil defending dictatorships or unjust causes.